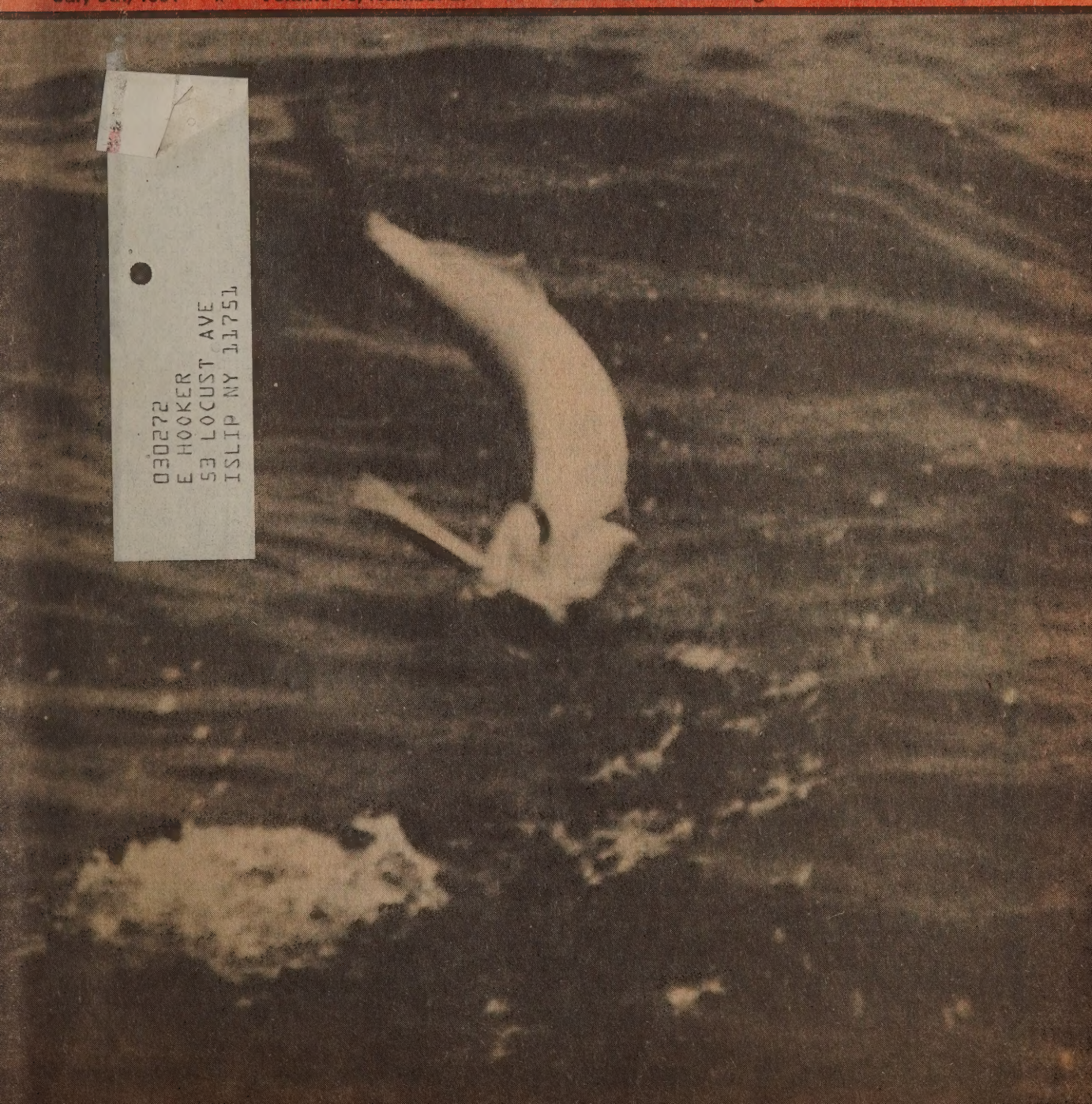
70¢

A FISHERMAN PUBLICATION

The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

July 9th, 1981 ★ Volume 16, Number 27 ★ 16th Year of Publishing ★ SEVENTY-CENTS



030272
E HOOKER
53 LOCUST AVE
ISLIP NY 11751

THIS CONTEST WILL BE RUN AUG. 8,1981.

ALTERNATE DATE, IF NECESSARY, AUG. 9, 1981.

FREEPORT'S HUDSON ANGLERS

PRESENTS

9th ANNUAL INVITATIONAL OPEN SHARK TOURNAMENT

AUGUST 8, 1981

At MAKO MARINA HEADQUARTERS

ELIGIBILITY:
1) Open to all clubs and individuals, both male and female.
2) All entrants must be registered with the Hudson Anglers at Mako Marina Headquarters

ENTRY:
1) Entry fee of $75.00 per boat.
2) $45.00 to be returned as prize money and $30.00 to be used to defray expenses (printing,mailing, signs(2 portions bait or chum)
3) Captain's meeting 8/7/81, 7:30 p.m. Captain or at least 1 crew member must attend.

PRIZE MONEY:
1st PRIZE..... 60%
2nd PRIZE..... 25%
3rd PRIZE..... 15%

SPECIES:
Contest is limited to any species of shark. No other fish will be considered.

ADDITIONAL PRIZES:
Additional prizes will be given according to weight. Awarding of prizes will be at completion of contest.

WEIGH-IN:
Weigh in is by 6:30P.M. at Mako Marina
The three heaviest sharks, regardless of species, will be declared the winners.

FISHING RULES:
1) All sharks must be caught on rod and reel from the boat entered in the contest.
2) All eligible sharks must weight 75 lbs. or over.
3) Three sharks per boat will be eligible for prizes.
4) No harpoon equipment of any description may be used.
5) Any shark shot or unduly mutilated in any way or caught by any method other than rod and reel will be disqualified
6) All sharks will be inspected for fair play, and the DECISION OF THE JUDGES WILL BE FINAL.
7) International Game and Fish Rules shall apply.
8) It is mandatory for all boats fishing in this Tournament to have a functional CB or VHF.

REFUND:
If the contest is called off for any reason by Tournament Committee on both days or if no fish over 75 lbs. is caught the PRIZE MONEY ($45.00) will be returned to Captains upon presentation of valid duplicate entry form to Mako Marina.

RESPONSIBILITY:
In any event, the "Hudson Angler" Inc., its officers, the Tournament Committee or Mako Marina accept no responsibility for the safety of any boat or its occupants. At all times, and in any weather, the owners or persons in charge of the boat entered in the contest will make their own decisions concerning the operation of their boats and all matters relating thereto.

Official Entry Form
SHARK TOURNAMENT

CUT AND MAIL COMPLETED ENTRY FORM TO:

HUDSON ANGLERS,INC.
MAKO MARINA
117 HUDSON AVE.,FREEPORT,N.Y. 11520
(516) 378-7331

Captains Name.....

Address.....

Town..... Phone.....

Name of Boat..... Size.....

Make of Boat..... Color.....

Club name.....

ANGLER CARD

Names and Addresses of all Participating Anglers

_____

_____

_____

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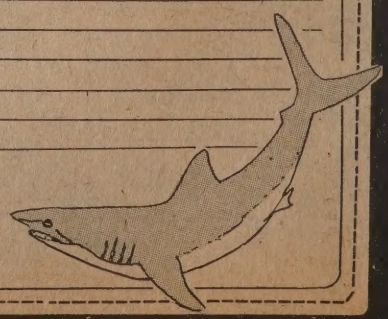
Entry Fee Must Accompany This Application

All Entries Must Be Returned By July 25, 1981



The Long Island FISHERMAN

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Volume 16, Number 27 **July 9th, 1981**

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A jig hooked blue takes to the air off of Eaton's Neck. See Don Avondolio's article on this Long Island Sound hotspot beginning on page 17. Cover by Don Avondolio.

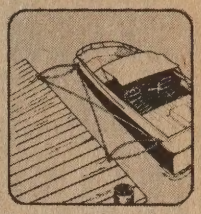
COMING NEXT WEEK: **THE OFFSHORE REVOLUTION**

Richard Reina PUBLISHER
Al Ristori ASSOCIATE EDITOR
Pete Barrett CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
W.A. Muller MANAGING EDITOR
Stu Miller ADVERTISING MANAGER
Tim Coleman CONTRIBUTING EDITOR
Fred Golofaro EDITOR
Carolyn Brewer ART DIRECTOR
Rick S. Reina PRODUCTION MANAGER

The LONG ISLAND FISHERMAN is published weekly, except for two weeks in December, by the L.I.F. Publishing Corporation, L.I.F. Building, Bridge Street, Post Office Box 1994, Sag Harbor, New York 11963. Telephone: 516-725-4200. Second Class Postage is paid at Sag Harbor, New York. $.70 per copy; back issues $.85 per copy. Subscriptions: One Year, 50 Issues - $14; Two Years, 100 Issues - $26; Three Years, 150 Issues - $38. Photographs and written contributions must be accompanied by a written request and a self-addressed, stamped envelope. All consideration will be given these requests; however, no responsibility on our part is assumed. Notice of change of address must include both the old and the new address. Please allow two to four weeks for the change. USPS 588-160.

PRICES SLASHED!

DOCK STAND-OFF
(Save the Cost of Pilings)



The new Florida tested method of mooring, that makes certain YOUR BOAT WILL NEVER BANG AGAINST THE DOCK. Two extremely strong, light, flexible fiberglass rods are the secret. They absorb & deflect the thrust of wind & water & hold your boat at a safe distance from the dock. Easy to install & use. Proven success!

Available in 3 sizes:

Size	Description	List	SALE
21	Boats to 21' or 2500 lbs.	$89.95	$62.95
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29	Boats to 29' or 8000 lbs.	$109.95	$79.95

MARINE BLOWERS
Designed to provide SAFE, EFFICIENT, HIGH VOLUME AIR CIRCULATION for engine or fuel compartments.

ITT #35115-0020
12V.
3" Flange Mount
List $32.95
SALE $19.66

ITT #35515-0010
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SALE $19.99

HELMSMEN SEATS
"EEZ-IN" MOLDED SEAMLESS BOAT SEATS
Water resistant cushion, high density foam. Classic style hinges. Complete with folding helmsmen hardware for easy attachment.

Model	Width	Depth	Back Cush. Height	List	SALE
40016	16"	17"	16"	$109.00	$63.33
40020	20"	17¾"	16¾"	$115.00	$72.77
40024	24"	17¾"	16¾"	$137.00	$86.88

EEZ-IN **Model 40018**
Width 18" Depth 19"
Back Cush. Height 17"
List $79.00 SALE $49.88

PORTABLE BOAT HORN
FOR FOG, RESCUE OR EMERGENCY SIGNALING

Falcon push-button horn packs a loud wallop of sound that can be heard up to a mile away. Emergency "Blow-Thru" feature— super tough 4" horn - meets U.S.C.G. requirements for classes I, II & III.

	List	SALE
#FPB	$11.95	$6.99

Sale Ends July 25, 1981

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(Between Oceanside & Long Beach)
4365 Austin Blvd., Island Park, N.Y. 11558
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Hrs. 8AM-6PM Mon./Sat. • 9 PM Thurs. & Fri.

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260 E. Main St. (Montauk Hwy., Babylon 11702
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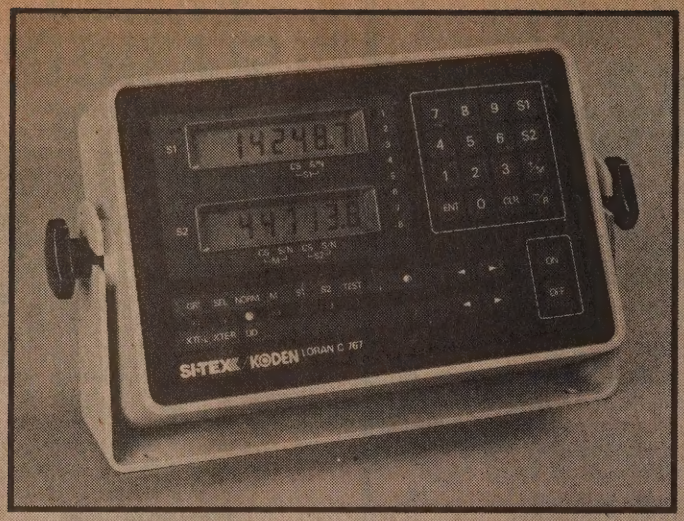
FROM A TACH TO AN ANCHOR • EST. 1932 • MAIL & PHONE ORDERS ACCEPTED • WE SHIP U.P.S. • MAIL ORDERS SENT U.P.S. WITHIN 24 HRS.



"Booksize" Loran C receiver with computerized steering.

Introducing the new SI-TEX/ KODEN 767. A fully automatic dual Loran C receiver in a small "booksize" case. Ideal for both the center console of the sport fisherman and the overcrowded wheelhouse of larger boats.

Two pre-set, internal notch filters eliminate most forms of local interference. Elapsed time can also be displayed in lower window.

Internal memory circuits feature "store" and "recall" modes. Receiver can store and recall eight separate Loran C positions. "Always on" memory retains chain number, secondary stations and all eight memories even after receiver is turned off.

ComPuNav steering feature computes and guides you along a course to any one of seven pre-programmed destinations. It also tells you the time and distance to get there.

All this at an unbelievably low price. For full-color brochure and names of your nearest dealers, write SI-TEX, P.O. Box 6700, Clearwater, FL 33518.

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Pass It On...

MONTAUK CAPTS. ASSOC. WILL DISTRIBUTE CASH & PRIZES TO CHARITY & CONTESTANTS

The Montauk Captains Association is pleased to announce that our Second Annual Charity Shark Tournament is filled. Due to the overwhelming response and popularity of this event, we have increased the number of entries to 120 boats. We would like to thank those who have given up support in this endeavor and now look forward to a great weekend.

For all those thinking of venturing east in the near future, the weekend of July 11 and 12 might very well be the time to do it. Last year's tournament provided Montauk with one of the most festive weekends of the summer season, and this year's promises more of the same.

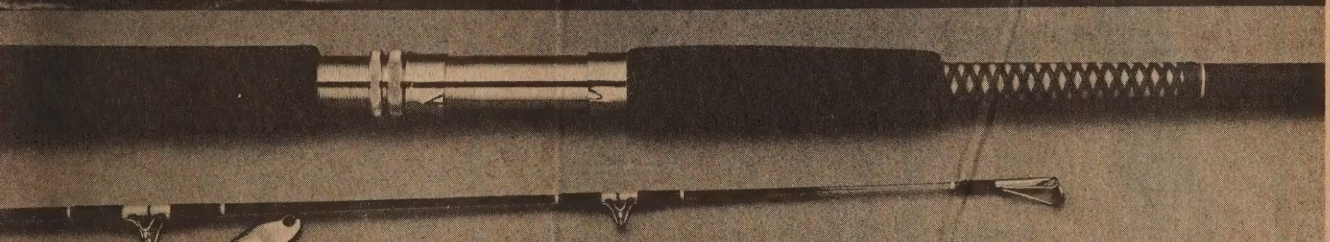
Henry Colombi's Star Island Yacht Club, this year's host, will be alive with some of the finest sportfishing machines and sportfishermen found on the East Coast. For two days they will be trying to land that one big shark that will quality them for one of the trop three spots and a share of $6,000 or more in prize money. In addition, there will be thousands of dollars worth of marine equipment and supplies awarded to the contestants on Saturday evening.

On hand will also be representatives of the three charities that the MCA will donate the other half of the tournament proceeds to. These fine organizations are the American Heart Fund, the American Cancer Society, and the Montauk Fire Department Ambulance Squad. The total amount contributed to these organizations will be in excess of $6,000. In addition, the Fire Department Auxiliary will be selling coffee, rolls and danish, while the MCA will have T-shirts for those interested in a memento of the tourney. All proceeds from these sales will also go directly to charity. Unlike other tournaments, the MCA retains no money whatsoever in this endeavor.

The Montauk Captains Association stresses sportsmanship and conservation and this is reflected in the tournament rules and regulations. Only one shark per day may be weighed in by each boat, and that one must exceed 100 lbs. All others must be tagged and released. There will be a special award for the boat tagging the most fish over the two-day period.

Rules and regulations are good, but it is the caliber of the contestants that make this a truly sporting event. Last year we had two sure winners disqualify themselves when possibly no one would have been the wiser. One of these was a boat that brought in a mako shark weighing close to 500

Introducing the toughest rod on 75 percent of the earth's surface.



The Ugly Stik® rod.

Fenwick hasn't got it. Diawa can't duplicate it. Garcia doesn't make it.

There's only one place you can get the toughest, lightest, most durable big-water rod ever made. From Shakespeare.

That's because only Shakespeare has the patented Double-Bilt™ Process—a unique blank-building system that covers an inner spiral of graphite with a tough outer layer of fiberglass.

The result: A big-water rod so strong, it can outfight most any fish that swims. Yet so light, you can fish all day without tiring.

In fact, we're so confident the Ugly Stik rod can take any punishment a fish can dish out, we'll replace it free within five years of purchase if it ever breaks under normal fishing conditions.

But the best thing about the Ugly Stik rod from Shakespeare is that there are over 20 different big-water Ugly Stik rods to choose from.

From spinning and casting rods to fly rods to downrigger and boat rods.

Remember that the next time you wade into a fight with a big-water monster,

Because when you challenge the toughest fish on 75 percent of the earth's surface, you want a rod that's 100 percent dependable.

Don't take chances with your line, either. Always spool on plenty of crystal-clear Sigma™ Big Water Mono, the best all-around big-water monofilament ever invented.

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BIG WATER UGLY STIK

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Next time you hook a big one. U.S. Troll-a-line will help you get him to the scales. It's our strongest line, braided from Dacron polyester fiber. Its superior quality assures excellent performance for any fisherman.

Available in 20-30-50-80 and 130lb. IGFA class. U.S. Troll-a-line offers absolute thinness of diameter with a minimum of stretch. Packed six 50-yard spools connected in acetate box...and in bulk heavy duty plastic spools from 300 to 1,000 yds. "Black-stripe" color.

*Dupont Trademark

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U.S. LINE COMPANY

Westfield, MA 01085

Dealer Inquiries Invited

TIGER TAILS

★

THE ULTIMATE WEAKFISH LURE

★

From July 6th to October 20th 1980 a 22 Ft. Mako fishing boat with a four man crew fishing Ambrose Channel caught 19,000 Weaks weighting over 134,000 Lbs.

The lure also worked well through out Long Island and New Jersey waters. Un like lures with plastic tails the S&G Tiger Tail can catch 100 fish or more and still be usable.

Many inexperienced fisherman using S&G Tiger Tails for the first time could not believe how easy it was to catch Weakfish. They are available in ¾, 1¼, and 2 oz. sizes and in 6 fish catching colors.

S&G TACKLE CO., Inc.

331 PARKVILLE AVE., BROOKLYN, N.Y. 11230

(212) 859-4130 (212) 332-8325

lbs. The crew battled this monster on rod and reel for most of the day. Unfortunately, they had to subdue it with a harpoon when, after 5½ hours, the line parted at the side of the boat. This is sportsmanship.

The officials slotted to govern over this tournament are all fine sportsmen in their own right. The three judges are Rich Reina of The Long Island Fisherman, Nick Karas of Newsday, and Jerry Kenny of the Daily News. The Weighmaster is Al Ristori of The Long Island Fisherman. The foremost shark expert on the East Coast, Jack Casey, will be in attendance to coordinate the tagging program and conduct scientific research. These men donate their time and effort for this event, and their service can only assure us of another successful contest.

So we invite all to join us at the dock for the Montauk Captains Association's Second Annual Charity Shark Tournament. If you've never been to Montauk, you'll find no better place for a summer visit. We'll also show you on July 11th and 12th why it is considered the fishing capitol of the East Coast.

ALOU EEL TO VISIT GATEWAY STRIPER CLUB

On Thursday July 9, 1981 Gateway Striper Club will conduct an Open House at Building T149, Fort Tilden, N.Y. Mr. Joel Ackermann of Alou Eel is coming down to exhibit the many fine products his company manufactures, and the club invites all those interested to attend. New Members are always welcome. The meeting starts at 8PM sharp.

Gateway Stripers would also like to thank Messrs. John (Whitey) Psoulaski and Jack Yee of the Montauk Surfcasters Association for their informative talk at our last meeting. They provided some soul-searching ideas about the future of sport fishing on Long Island.

SUMMER FLOUNDER (FLUKE) STUDY IN GREAT SO. BAY REWARD FOR TAG RETURNS

The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation, Division of Marine Resources, is conducting a study on fluke in Great South Bay. Approximately 1,000 fluke will be tagged with plastic disc tags. The Department will offer a reward, three dollrs, for the return of **both** discs from each recaptured fish. Please return tags promptly to reduce the chances of lost information. Your assistance and cooperation in returning tags will be appreciated.

For additional information, please call (516) 751-7900, extension 326.

GREAT GUN ANGLERS SHARK TOURNAMENT

The Great Gun Anglers are having their Fifth Annual Shark Tournament on July 11, 1981, with a rain date of July 12, 1981. A guaranteed purse of $4,000 for the largest shark will be divided between 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

place winners. An $80 entry fee is required per boat and any individual may enter.

For an informational brochure write Great Gun Anglers, Inc., Box 39 East Moriches, New York 11940, or call East Moriches Bait & Tackle, (516) 878-4720; or Superior Bait & Tackle (516) 475-8825.

L.I.B.B.A. NEWS

There will be a Long Island Beach Buggy Association Board of Directors meeting at Bondi's Tavern, Montauk Highway, Patchogue on July 9, at 8PM. Anyone interested in the functions of this organization may attend. For more information, call (516) 261-9767.

26TH ANNUAL SO. SHORE MARLIN & TUNA CLUB TOURNEY

This tournament will be held on July 11th and 12th; storm dates July 18th and 19th. There is an entrance fee of $50 per boat for 2 days and individuals who are members of clubs may also enter. Species are tuna, white marlin, blue marlin, swordfish and a new addition of mako shark. First prize for the largest scoring fish is 30 International reel, and custom rods will be awarded for the largest fish in each category each day. IGFA rules apply. Weigh-ins are at: Jackson's Marina, Shinnecock Inlet; Hi-Way Fishing Station, Moriches Inlet, and Frank & Dick's, Fire Island Inlet.

For further info concerning application, etc., please contact Al Kaich at 741-3198 or 735-4691; or Kurt Roeloffs (Bus.) 475-1424, (home) 475-0811.

New Products

GRADY WHITE'S NEW "DUAL CONSOLE" SPORT FISHING CONCEPT

One look at Grady-White's new Tournament 22's tells you that the Grady-White design group is a sport fishing bunch. Their new "dual console" 22 footers combine the open boat concept of center consoles with a dual console design that offers offshore fishermen the protection of a full windshield, top and side curtains. Plus, with two consoles, these self-bailing, fiberglass-lined 22s have more storage and insulated fishboxes than many sport fishing boats in the 30 ft. range.

The Tournament 22s are available in three models: the 223 outboard, the 224 I/O, and the 225 Sea Drive. All are built on a 22 ft., deep-V hull designed specifically for offshore use. Forward of the consoles, the open bow area features a deep, insulated fishbox (or ice box) with overboard drainage. The bow-floor anchor-locker drains overboard too. In the walkway between the consoles, three large storage compartments stow enough gear for a boatload of fishermen. The port side forward storage locker is fitted with five drawers for tackle or whatever.

The helm console area is a unique new design featuring a lockable radio box directly forward, full plexiglass shielded instrument panel, and a compass mount directly in front of the helmsman. The companion console houses a glove box complete with a tube for chart storage. In addition, the top of the companion console is large enough to serve as an electronics station and a chart table.

Two large insulated fish boxes are directly aft of the helm and companion seats. The helm fishbox is completely open, but the companion seat fish box is split into a larger box and a smaller one that accepts an optional live well. The cockpit also features rod racks port and starboard.

Both the 224 inboard/outboard and 225 Sea Drive Tournament 22s feature an aft fishing station outfitted with a removable bait well, teak cutting board, and two aft jump seats. The 223 outboard model features a fold-down bulkhead plus port and starboard insulated fish boxes with overboard drains. All models are available with the optional tuna tower and Grady-White's newly-designed fish box which fits in the aft cockpit.

In short, the new Tournament 22s from Grady-White are a completely new look at offshore fishing design. They feature the self-bailing, open boat a fisherman needs, the comfort of a windshield, top and side curtains and the built-ins that you've come to expect from a Grady-White.

SAMPO INTRODUCES BLACK BEAUTIES

Adead-black, nylon coated, stainless steel wire leader has been introduced by Sampo, makers of the only American made ball bearing swivels.

The new leader has at one end a Sampo ball-bearing swivel and stainless steel lock snap, both dead-black in color, and at the other end has a loop.

"We've named them Black Beauties," says John Spriggs, Jr., marketing manager at Sampo. "There isn't a bright spot visible on the leader, the swivel or the snap. They are invisible in the water, so the lure truly appears to move independent of the terminal tackle.

"Besides that, this type leader cast farther with less chance of hooks hanging up on the line. The slight extra weight of the swivel and snap at the lure end helps gain casting distance, the weight helping also to keep the lure out ahead of the line.

"No one will have to worry about any line twist, kinks or tangles with a Black Beauty, either. A rig like this with one of our ball-bearing swivels eliminates those problems."

Spriggs said the new leaders in 6", 9" and 12" lengths are available now in 10, 20 and 30 lb. test weights.

STARCRAFT

STARCRAFT ALUMINUM BOATS

- THE ULTIMATE FUEL MISER
- NEED ONLY SMALL H.P. ENGINE
- STRONG—LIGHT—TOUGH
- EASY TRAILERING, ANY CAR
- ALMOST INDESTRUCTIBLE
- LOW MAINTENANCE

LARGEST STARCRAFT DEALER ON L.I.
BEST DEALS ANYWHERE!

COME IN & LET US PROVE IT!

• 12'-14'-16'-18'-21'
1982 MODELS IN STOCK
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DEMOS! SIDE & CENTER CONSOLES!

★ Also ★
STARCRAFT FIBERGLASS, 16'-19'

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Catch
Blues
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Bridgeport's new Slab Jigs have 10 sides for maximum light reflection and an action that's ideal for jigging or "heaving and hauling." A special new chrome finish that can really take it. Stainless steel eyes that won't corrode. A sturdy Mustad hook on barrel swivel. In 3 oz., 4 oz. and 6 oz. Write for free catalog.

bead

Bead Chain Tackle Co.
231 Mountain Grove St.,
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NATIONAL SCENE

1981 IGFA RECORD BOOK

by Al Ristori

The 1981 edition of WORLD RECORD GAME FISHES has been published by the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) and is a must for all serious anglers. Priced at just $6.95, this book is the "Bible" when it comes to records—and there are now far more records than ever before as freshwater and fly rod records have been added, along with some new species.

As noted in a previous column, there never has been a better time than now to set a world record. That's especially the case for freshwater anglers, since most of the line class records for freshwater species are still wide open—and there's not even a minimum weight requirement. The opportunities are even greater in the lightly contested fly rod division, which includes both fresh and salt water species. Most of the saltwater line class records are pretty tough to beat, but the IGFA is adding new species each year based on entries in their annual contest. By entering fish of any kind in that contest you may well end up with a world record—as well as a contest winner. The IGFA contest is open to all, but world record requirements must be observed and the appropriate form completely filled out.

There's much more to the 1981 edition of WORLD RECORD GAME FISHES than just a listing of records, plus information about submission of entries for records and the annual contest. Actually, only about 80 of the 308 pages are devoted to records. There are several interesting articles, including a piece by Mark Sosin on outdoor photography, another by Ken Schultz on releasing fish, and one by Dale Clemens on building custom rods. An 80-page section entitled "Guide to Fishes" helps to identify major species around the world, and there are also sections on knot-tying, foreign records, and a "U.S. Sportfishing Information Directory."

You can pick up a copy of WORLD RECORD GAME FISHES/1981 at selected tackle shops, marinas and book stores, or order it direct for $6.95 (including postage and handling) from IGFA, 3000 East Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316. An even better bet is to join IGFA and get the book free, along with the bimonthly newsletter INTERNATIONAL ANGLER as well as other membership benefits. The yearly individual membership fee is $15.

New Address for Tuna Permits

Bill Jerome at the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) office in Gloucester wants our readers to know that the tuna permits necessary for boats fishing for giant tuna are now being issued from a different office. You'll save some time if you direct your permit request to Permit Section, NMFS, P.O. Box 1109, Gloucester, MA 01930. Every year a tuna run pops up somewhere in our area and anglers are left at the gate because they haven't gotten around to obtaining the free, and permanent, permit. Do it now and don't be sorry later!

Speaking of giants, Bill noted that the first giant was harpooned in Cape Cod Bay on June 11, and two more had fallen to harpoons in the next week. He's hoping that the early season fishing will be a lot better than it was last year, when relatively few giants were boated prior to August.

Big Turnout for Hearing on Dumping

The June 18 hearing on a demonstration dumping project in Raritan Bay brought out a big crowd to Wagner College on Staten Island. Almost all of the hundreds present were opposed to the Corps of Engineers project, and if public sentiment has anything to do with such decisions it will be the project that gets buried rather than the dredge spoils. The opposition to this project (which has been described in previous columns) has been led by Lou Figurelli, President of the Natural Resources Protective Assn. of Staten Island. Though the plan is backed by the Corps, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and NOAA, it was opposed at the hearing by Derry Bennett (representing the American Littoral Society and National Coalition for Marine Conservation), the Staten Island Federation of Sportsmen, Congressman Guy Molinari, and Assemblyman Robert Straniere—as well as many other fishermen and residents. It will be interesting to see what happens from here—but you can be sure that Lou Figurelli won't back off a bit in any case!

Changes at SFI

Dick Stroud, who has been Executive Vice President of the prestigious Sport Fishing Institute throughout most of its thirty-one year existence, has taken early retirement in order to help the Institute over a funding crisis created by a reduction in support from the American Fishing Tackle Manufacturers Association (AFTMA). The latter organization lost a greal deal of money last year in the course of trying to set up the American Sportfishing Federation.

Stroud has been a prominent member of the conservation community in Washington for many years and a champion of causes designed to give saltwater sport fishermen a better piece of the action from the Federal Government. He was a big factor in gaining approval of the 200-Mile Limit, and never hesitated to criticize the bureaucrats who so often frustrated legislative intent by downgrading sport fishing. Stroud had a good deal of influence in the Washington conservation community, but he also avoided getting involved in some of their "far-out" environmental hassles. Dick Stroud will be missed, but his successor Gil Radonski should carry on in fine fashion. Gill is a very capable young biologist who has served with distinction as Executive Secretary of SFI.

Fishing Can Be Dangerous!

At the recent, very successful 11th Annual Walker's Cay Billfish Tournament, a 270 lb. blue marlin attacked a boat after an unsuccessful gaffing attempt. The blue started from a distance of ten feet and proceeded to put its bill through the port side and up through the deck. Then it backed off, came around the stern, up through the wake and charged the transom—leaving part of the bill there before being boated. At that, these anglers were lucky since they didn't sink. On my first trip to Chub Cay in 1969 a cabin cruiser was actually sunk by a much smaller blue which put its bill through the planks during the gaffing process!

The Walker's tournament produced 48 billfish for 132 anglers on 81 boats during the five-day affair. The winner boated two blues and a 91 lb. white, while ladies took second and third places. Biggest blue was 561½ lbs., but most unusual was a 427½ pounder with an entire small white marlin in its stomach! Among the outstanding non-billfish were a 62 lb. dolphin by Harvey Wilson of Berwyn, PA and an 88¼ lb. wahoo. One of Montauk's favorites, Dr. Richard Hausknecht, had a blue and a white for 8th place overall, while ex-Freeport Chevy dealer Dick Raffo had a 105 lb. blue for 23rd, and Richard Koch of Merrick, L.I. caught a 56½ lb. white to finish 32nd.

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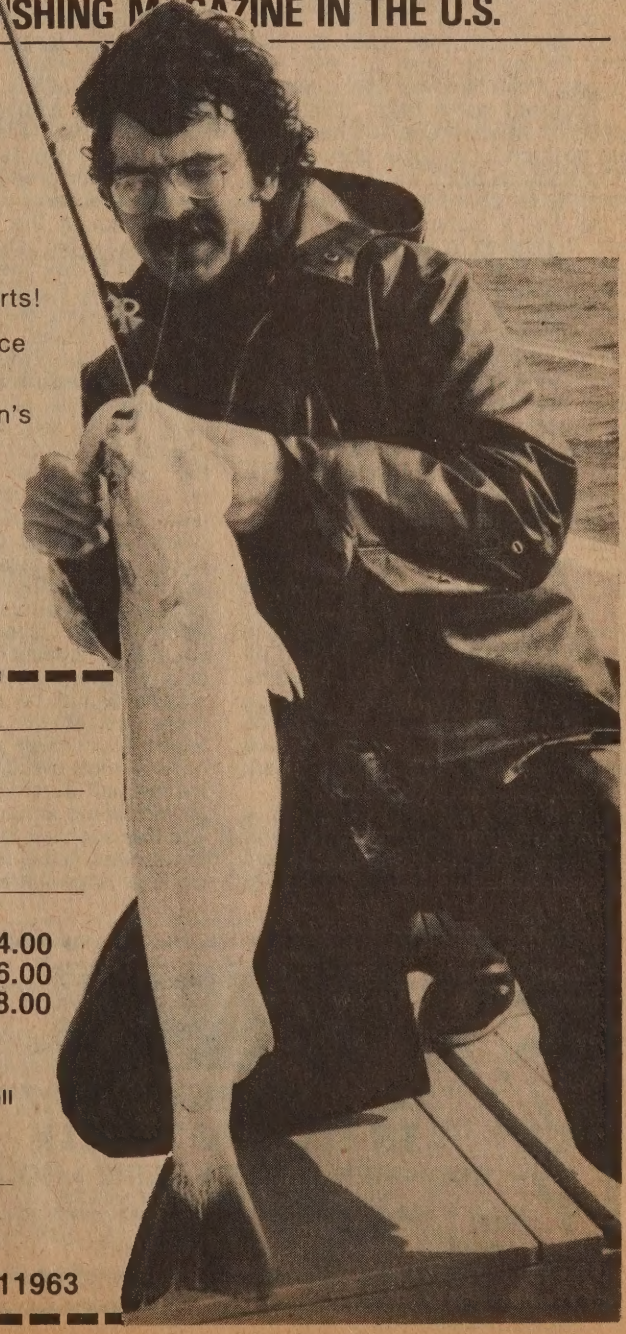

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July Winner of a Sigma Reel

by William A. Muller

VINCENT McSHERRY TELLS HIS OWN JAWS STORY. Due to the length of Vincent's letter, we can't reprint the entire contents, although we do wish to quote specific sections because of the dramatic realism that Vincent achieves. Vincent wrote about his experience with a shark while fishing for small bluefish near Herod's Point in Long Island Sound. He watched as a large dorsal fin appeared on the scene and he moved into position for a closer observation. "Our vantage point was looking back from the tip of the nose towards the dorsal fin; a distance of about five feet. Burnished in my memory is the look of those expressionless eyes staring ahead and the posture of the rest of the body that emitted a sense of invincibility. Even in the absence of motion, the shark evoked awe and fear." Vincent pursued his curiosity about this fish and numerous inquiries finally yield an identity of the species: tiger shark! Vincent continued; "I mentioned my experiences to a buddy and he recalled a magazine article that told of weakfishermen in Delaware Bay occasionally hooking up with mysterious fish too big to stop with bay-sized tackle. Fishermen in the area eventually geared up big enough to land these fish which turned out to be tiger sharks and all above 200 pounds. These fish all came from shallow water! What do you think? Was this a once in a lifetime sighting or are there chances of a repeat? Are you aware of any shark fishing in Long Island Sound?"

CHANCES?! Was this a once in a lifetime sighting? Probably it was, but that is quite a different question from the one that I believe you intended to ask. Namely, are large sharks that common or uncommon in Long Island Sound? If my interpretation of your intention is not accurate, please write in and correct me. We promise that you'll still get your Shakespeare Sigma Reel. Seriously, a surface sighting of a large shark in shallow water is probably rare due to a collection of factors. First, how often does a given angler go out fishing? How many days are calm enough to see such a fish? Is the water clear enough in our productive estuaries to be able to observe even the largest of fish except at the surface? Finally, how many big sharks are in our estuaries at any one time?

RARE BUT NOT UNCOMMON! That may seem like a phrase of great conflicting ideas, yet perhaps it is accurate. Much depends upon our definition of rare and our definition of common. It is almost certain that large sharks are nowhere near as abundant or as common as they are in the ocean. Here too there is a difference in abundance from place to place. Clearly, there are more large sharks out in the Gulf Stream than right along the coast. Thus we might say then, that large sharks in shallow bays and sounds are RARE. However, would that be accurate? If rare, then it would be uncommon for a fisherman, or any fisherman, to see one. Shark attacks would be unheard of. Yet, there are sharks spotted in Long Island Sound each year. I have seen one in almost every year in the span of the last half-dozen. Of course, I spend an inordinate amount of time fishing and that explains the frequency of my encounters, but it still points out that perhaps large sharks are not RARE! I have also seen large sharks in Peconic Bay, so the phenomenon is not unique to Long Island Sound. However, I believe you are more likely to spot a large shark in Long Island Sound than in the south shore bays because of the easy access to deep water and food that large sharks will experience in the Sound.

MORE SIGHTINGS AND MORE ATTACKS! If there are more large sharks then there will be more sightings. If there are more sightings, then there will be more attacks on humans. How many of you recall several summers in recent years when large sharks were of concern in Oyster Bay. I believe that officials closed the beaches once or twice and used helicopters to spot and chase the sharks out of the bay. I recall reading about several shark attacks near Lloyd Neck in the last one hundred years. At least one of these was a great white shark and it killed its victim.

MY OWN SIGHTINGS! In addition to the above observations, and your own sighting, I have seen a large great white in 1977, a shark of unknown identity of about eighteen feet in June of 1976, a shark of unknown identity of about 12 feet in 1978, and a tiger shark of about fifteen feet (about twenty feet off the beach in broad midday sunlight) in 1980. These experiences have caused me to harbor great caution in so-called safe inshore waters. All of the above personal sightings were made from the beach and thus as I roam the surf (whether south shore or north) I am always alert to the possible presence of large sharks. I doubt very much whether most sharks would attack a surf fishermen in waders (the one exception being the great white shark) because most sharks need to be aggravated or stimulated into feeding by vibrations and smell. Thus most sharks would tend to perceive wader clad legs as no different than a dock post or rock. White sharks are different because part of their feeding mechanism involves sensing and responding to heat given off by warm blooded creatures (mammals). I don't lose sleep worrying about sharks, but I don't do anything stupid either. If I wade deep, I won't keep any fish I save on a stringer on my utility belt. Almost any hungry shark will attempt to steal an easy meal of fresh dead fish. Unfortunately, the dead fish are attached to you, so as the fish drags

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away your stringer it also drags you with it; perhaps into dangerous currents or water too deep to stand. In this respect, wet suiters have an advantage. It also pays to keep your mind peeled on changing conditions. For example, you are catching fish and suddenly for no apparent reason the fish leave. Although it will not always be attributable to the intrudance of a large shark, the thought should cross your mind. Blues, bass, and weaks do not linger when they sense a large feeding shark is near. Oddly enough, bottom species may be less affected. In other words what I'm saying is that regardless of whether you are in a boat or on the beach, use your brain and don't tempt the fates.

SUCCESSFUL SHARK FISHING IN L.I.S. I do not know of anyone who, in recent years, has deliberately fished for big sharks in Long Island Sound. However, twenty or thirty years ago there were reported to be a few fishermen who tried it in eastern sections and with some measure of success. The sharks they caught have been reported to me to have been tigers and makos. How much of this is speculation and how much is fact is anyone's guess!

COD? Vincent was also curious about codfish in Long Island Sound. The possibility of cod in Long Island Sound is a very intriguing one. About eight years ago now, publisher Rich Reina and I pursued this possibility with considerable enthusiasm although we never got to the actually fishing stage. We began by talking to local expert fishermen; both young and old. The old-timers talked about abundant whiting even as far west as Execution Light. We heard rumors that cod were caught here in this deep water, there in that deep water. From younger experts we got a real sense that they believed cod were to be caught in Long Island Sound. Why didn't we ever fish for them. Well, in the early years we were knocked out by weather every time we thought we could arrange an experimental trip. Then as you know, cod stocks plummeted as the Russians and other East European block nations began the rape of our continental shelves prior to the passage of the two hundred mile limit law. Clearly, if cod were to be found in Long Island Sound, they would most certainly be "spill-over" fish. That is, migrants seeking less competition in extensions of their normal range when stocks were very large. Thus, it didn't seem worthwhile to pursue it with declining stocks.

WE HOPE YOU ENJOY YOUR SIGMA REEL, but we wouldn't advise any sharking with it. Try it on weaks, blues, bass, fluke and whatever and have fun! It isn't too late to enter the contest. Send your entry letters to me at:

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MULTI-PURPOSE COOLERS

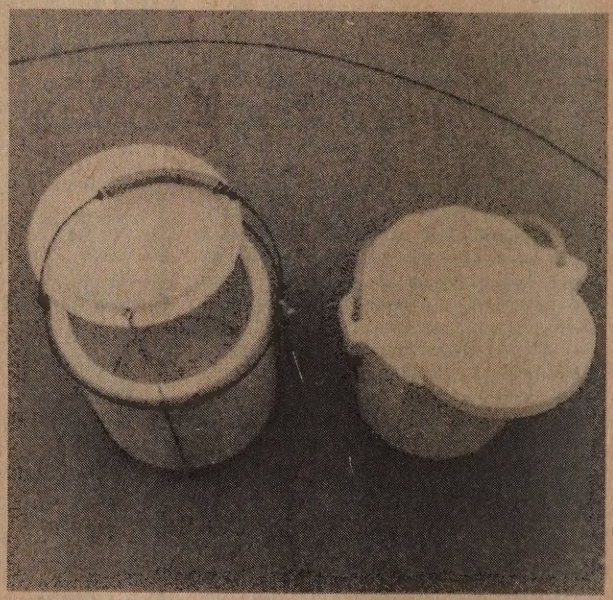
by Herb Buch

How many times have you held your nose as someone opened a package of ripe bait on a hot sunny day? The middle Atlantic States do not really suffer from too much hot weather. July and August are bad, and occasionally a few days in June or September, but the rest of the fishing year is comfortable. Our problem is that most of our fishing is done druing the hottest season. That is our vacation time, and the period when we are most likely to indulge in outdoor activities.

If you are a bait fisherman, you know what happens to bait on hot days. Squid turns red and begins to smell, cut bait softens so that it will not stay on the hook, worms die, spearing and sand eels soften and disintegrate. With the price of bait going through the ceiling, it just makes good sense to protect our investment by packing it in a cooler with some ice.

If your trip is a short one, the fish which your fresh bait should get you

Small coolers for bait.



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will not have time to spoil before you head for home. However, if you are going to be out for a full day, it is a good idea to obtain a larger but easily transportable cooler, into which you can pack your cleaned or filleted catch as soon as you process it.

Wherever you fish, you can usually find a spot to scale your catch, take off the heads and tails, and remove the viscera. Now they can go into a plastic bag and fit into the cooler. If you caught some big ones, fillet them, and then pack them the same way. When snappers are running, get some into the box as soon as they reach the shore and they will make good fresh bait later in the day if live ones are not available when the evening action begins.

The ultimate development in this type of box is one that not only preserves bait and fish, but also has some room for a few cold drinks, is easy to carry, and can also serve as a seat. I know of two companies that supply boxes of this type, and they are really an asset to any one who fishes when the temperature soars.

Herter's Route 1 in Waseca, Minnesota 56093, offers a line of foam plastic minnow buckets which are equipped with a wire frame that includes a carrying handle. These buckets are light in weight but much more durable than the usual coolers because they are made of a hard finish foam plastic. They come in several sizes to suit almost any need. Minor problems include the cover which is not attached in any way and has been known to blow out to sea, and the wire frame which will eventually rust. My wife and I have been using one of these in the ten and one half inch diameter, by twelve inch high size for several years and really enjoy it. When it was new, I removed the box from the frame and sprayed the frame with a clear varnish. Then I wrapped a rope handle on the wire bail, to make carrying it more comfortable. We also tied a piece of elastic tape to one side of the wire frame, and attached a small metal loop to the loose end. This allows us to stretch the tape across the cover and secure it to the other side of the frame so that the cover cannot blow away. It has been in service for more than five years, and is still in good shape.

The other good one is also shaped like a pail and is strong enough to sit on, even though it does not have a wire frame, and it is made of the usual soft plaastic foam. It is only available in one size, so as I know, and is manufactured by Insul-Pak Inc., P.O. Box 175 Moreno Plaza, Destin, Florida 32541. We bought ours in North Carolina, but the company may have some closer outlets. Although the foam insulation is softer than that of the Herter Box, it is thicker. There is no frame to rust, and the cover is impossible to lose because one side of the rope handle goes through a hole in it. I found that the bottom of the handle supports will gradually disintegrate under stress. This can be prevented by cutting half moons of tough plastic, and cementing them to the box just where the rope passes through it. I found that the bottom of thirty-five millimeter film boxes was just right to trim for this job. Use a cement like General Electric's silicone seal that won't eat holes in the plastic.

These last two boxes are tall enough to hold a one quart plastic bottle in an upright position. Fill the bottle almost full of water (allowing room for expansion when frozen) and leave it in your freezer overnight. This will very often last for a full summer's day fishing, and bring your catch home in good shape. You can always add fresh ice in the form of cubes in a plastic bag as needed. If you do not leave the cover off, but just slide it over part way as you store or remove items, the temperature will be maintained because cold air is heavier than warm air and it will tend to stay in the bucket. Chill your drinks in the refrigerator overnight before you load them.

Fresh bait is the best way of assuring a good catch, if fish are around. After working up a sweat by pulling in lots of fish you will appreciate the chance to sit down and enjoy a cold drink, with the temperature hovering about the ninety degree mark. All of these benefits are yours for a few dollars, and an hour's work at customizing one of these boxes.

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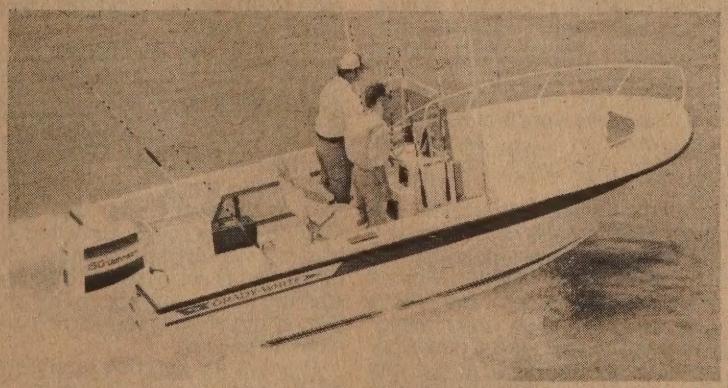

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SINKER BOUNCING

KINGFISH

by Matt Ahern

Al Dunn reeled in his killie-baited fluke rig, wrapped an inch or two of slack around the reel handle, and leaned the rod against the skiff's gunnel. He gazed along the length of Shinnecock Inlet's East Channel, then turned to me and asked: "Where's the fluke?" I shrugged. "Beats me," I replied. "They were here last week."

Which was true enough.

Just short days ago my long-time buddy Nick Hauck had taken six decent keepers from the area, plus scads of throwbacks. But today was today and Al and I had shot three hours proving that indeed there were no fluke in East Channel. Even a monotony-breaking short would have been welcomed. But it wasn't to be.

Al removed his hard-working killie from the hook and tossed it overside. "Well—that's that. Tell you what, Matt. Let's shoot over to Shinnecock Bait, pick up some sandworms and give the Peconic porgies a try. What do you say?"

"Sounds good to me," I replied. "Anything's better than this."

Less than an hour later we were anchored in Peconic Bay, a thousand or so feet north of the entrance to Shinnecock Canal and getting a fair pick on bay porgies. These weren't big fish, but under the circumstances they were welcome indeed.

Time passed and as we were ready to pack it in, Al lifted aboard a medium-sized kingfish. "Hey! Look at this! A kingfish. First I ever caught."

"Then you can brag a little," I said. "I know a lot of fellers who have yet to catch their first one."

And this, too, was true enough.

As for myself, I know I've rarely caught more than two or three kingfish each spring and summer, and sometimes a complete season passes without one in the bucket. Actually, I'd say that during more than a half-century of sinker bouncing, I've probably caught fewer than 200 kingfish. Which isn't much when you consider it's possible to catch 200 or more flounder in a week of good fishing.

There are two reasons for this lack of kingfish activity on my part. One: those kings I do catch are incidental to other fishing; and Two: kingfish are none too plentiful in our neck of the woods. I can recall but two instances when I purposely fished for kings, and this only because at each particular time these scrappers seemed as abundant as bergalls.

The record kingfish, I'm told, weighed in at six pounds. Not much in the weight department you must admit, but my experience with these bits of dynamite tells me this lucky fisherman must have had his hands full. I know I've never seen a six pounder—or a five pounder for that matter.

I well remember my first kingfish. It was better than three pounds and remains to this day as the largest I've caught. I put if that way because for us fishermen, hope forever springs eternal. I'll never forget that scrap, though. And when you consider the capture of this kingfish occurred back in 1928 when I was 13-14-years-old, and that I can still recall the heart-thumping thrill before I lifted it aboard, I have only one thing to say—that was some fish!

Let's take a quick peek at our scrappy friend. Any fish that is such a joy to catch certainly deserves a little attention on our part.

Actually, the name kingfish is incorrect. Fisheries biologists know this fish as the northern whiting, which is not to be confused with the silver hake, commonly called whiting by all local fishermen. Our kingfish also goes under many other names, such as: sea mink, sea mullet, whiting, king whiting, and roundhead. All very confusing, I'll admit; but as most of these names are unknown outside specific localities, we fishermen on Long Island get along very well with the name kingfish.

While not the least bit related, our kingfish shares a quirk of nature with the common mackerel—namely, the lack of a swim or air bladder. Forced to be continuously on the move because of this (else they sink), kingfish belt the bait with a powerful, rod-bending strike. This strike can only be described as something akin to the fierce attack of a night-prowling weakfish. If kingfish grew as large as stripers or blues, they'd be the most sought-after fish on the Eastern Seaboard.

Because they are extremely sensitive to severe fluctuations in water temperature, kingfish are seldom caught until the weather has definitely settled, usually sometime in early June, just after the vanguards of fluke have arrived. Occasionally, a few are taken in mid-May near inlets, and these are large fish as a rule. But it is better to wait a few more weeks when success is more likely. I've found July and August to be the best months. After Labor Day, kingfish quickly leave our area.

Kingfish prowl the confines of sheltered waters, as well as they do the surf. Most kings in these protected areas are concentrated in water from eight to fifteen feet; but wherever caught, they prefer a hard, sand bottom, although I've caught a few on occasion when flounder fishing over soft mud bottoms during late spring.

Spinning tackle is ideal. Choose a rod of medium weight if the water you intend fishing is over fifteen feet in depth and you must contend with a stronger than normal current, particularly if a sinker heavier than two ounces is called for. Your matching reel should be filled with eight to ten pound test monofilament.

When surf fishing for kings, a conventional surf rod and reel will do, of course, but more fun is obtained by using spinning tackle made for surf fishing. This gear will allow you to use lighter line and sinkers, but in this lightness you will find its one drawback. The wash of the surf and the prevailing currents sometimes tend to lift the required light terminal tackle off bottom.

This can be overcome to some extent if fishing is done in the lee of a jetty or sand bar where the current is greatly reduced. Kingfish also like the deeper holes usually found adjacent to these obstructions. You will find the larger kings there, waiting for food to be swept into their selected feeding places. Once a hooked king is brought into the surf's undertow, the fisherman is surprised to discover the stamina and fighting ability of this fish. Kingfish must be earned—every inch of the way.

Rigging for kingfish is simply and easily done. A 1/0 Sproat or Claw-type hook is best. I'm a great champion of the Sproat hook for most bottom fishing, but in this instance my preference is for the claw-type. Kingfish hit on the run and the bend of this hook seems to assure a hooked fish.It also helps to set the hook sharply, immediately the strike is felt.

Kings are not likely to rise far off the bottom for your bait. Seldom will they be caught more than a few inches above the floor of the bay or surf. I have, on occasion, caught kingfish on

spearing when snapper fishing, but for all-around fishing, it is best to have the bait where the fish expect it.

Therefore, make sure the bait is on bottom. This is no great problem, for it is easily accomplished by the use of a medium-sized three-way swivel. Be certain the swivel is tied in no higher than two inches above the sinker. Many fishermen who object to this method consider this component as merely unnecessary hardware, and so they'd rather tie their hook directly to the main line.

Another hook can be added tandem fashion if desired. Or you can place a medium-sized snap swivel (or sinker snap if one is available) at the end of the line and place both sinker and hook together. This works well. But whatever method is used, it is important that the bait be on bottom.

The sinker can be of the bank type for bay fishing and a pyramid for the surf. The triangular pyramid will dig into the sand, which helps to overcome the surf's action. For bay fishing, a two ounce weight will do the job under most conditions, but in the surf, I would go to three or possibly four ounces.

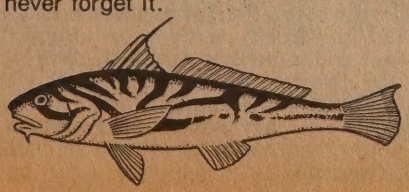
Selecting proper bait is also no problem, the only importance being it must be fresh. Use your older bait for other fish if you wish, but don't offer it to the kingfish.

Squid, blood and sandworm, shrimp, hard, soft, or skimmer clam, and small spearing are all good baits, with the edge favoring sandworm. Kingfish have small mouths but don't make the mistake of using too small a bait. Two inch pieces of worm, with a quarter inch trailing from the end, will attract more kings than any other type of bait.

Weakfishermen in boats often catch kingfish when using the high-low rig, especially if some form of chum is used. Use a leadered 1/0 Sproat tied in about three feet above the sinker for possible weaks, and your claw hook on the bottom. Bait the weakfish hook with a flag of squid or whole sandworm (hooked once through the head), and the bottom hook with the recommended two inch piece of sandworm.

I've caught some mighty big weakfish with this rig, especially in the Peconics. And surprise, surprise, most of these were caught on that bottom hook. Don't ask me why those weaks preferred the smaller bait, but they did. A word to the wise is sufficient.

So—that's all I can tell you about kingfish for now. It is my wish that perhaps this summer you can say along with Al Dunn "Hey, look! A kingfish! First I ever caught." If you do, I'll promise one thing: you'll never forget it.



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Saturday is the first day of fishing. Start as early as you like — from your home port and fish all day but make sure you weigh-in by 5 P.M. at Charvins Fishing Station because no late weigh-in's will be allowed. Then join us Saturday night at our yard on Woodcleft Avenue for a cookout beginning at 7 P.M.

If you didn't have any luck Saturday you still have half a day Sunday to catch the big ones! But again please weigh-in on time — by **3 P.M. Sunday** at Charvins. Then to end the weekend a cookout and awards party starting at 4 P.M. Sunday at Grovers on Woodcleft Avenue.

Everyone entering the tournament will get a Mako T-shirt and plaques will be awarded for the largest fish in each species and also for the most weight or total catch.

So please join us for lots of fun and action just fill in the enclosed entry blank and return as soon as possible.

The Grover Crew

Docking facilities are available at the Guy Lombardo — Town of Hempstead Marina, which is located at the southend of Guy Lombardo Avenue. If you use these facilities you may charge the docking fee to Al Grover's Marine and we will provide shuttle service to Woodcleft. If you wish you can have your boat hauled and stored in our yard overnight at no charge.

There will be parking facilities available at the extreme southend of Woodcleft Avenue.

Judges and weigh masters will be: Al Grover, Dante Grover and Lou Stalker.

Please attend the cocktail party Friday night for final registration and distribution of numbers.

RULES AND REGULATIONS

The tournament is open to all Mako and Groverbuilt owners. Boats entering the tournament do so at their own risk, the tournament operators accept no responsibility for any boat.

Starting time — at dawn. Weigh-in time **Sat. - 5 P.M. Sunday - 3 P.M. No late weigh-in's** will be allowed!

Weigh-in station — Charvins Fishing dock which is located at the foot of Woodcleft Avenue. Charvins will also have bait and fuel available to those wishing to purchase it.

All boats must have an operational VHF or CB radio. We will monitor channels 68 on VHF and 12 & 13 on CB.

Each boat owner will be responsible for his own boat and decide whether or not his boat is capable of fishing in the area he chooses under the sea conditions for that day.

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BOATING TIPS

HOW TO FIND IT

by Bob Whittier

You were moving slowly up the channel leading to a busy mooring area when a boat you had never seen before came along from the other direction. As the two craft passed, you spotted an item of equipment aboard it that you'd never seen before—and it was something that would be most useful on your own craft!

Unfortunately, circumstances did not allow you to hail the skipper of the other boat to find out who makes the items and where to get it. Golden opportunity lost!

Or, you are overhauling your boat and find you need a few parts for some item of equipment on board it. There may be no trademark at all on it, just a label that reads "Made in Paraguay." You phone all the marine stores for miles around asking if they have parts for a Paraguayan marine stove. None ever heard of it.

That leaves you up a tree and out on a limb.

You find yourself wondering how that Paraguayan stove got aboard your boat in the first place. Well, probably in some such way as this—an importing company sold a truckload of them to the mass-production boat company that built your boat, after having had no luck trying to sell small lots of them to various marine hardware distributors.

Be that as it may, you—and many other boat owners—are often confronted with the problem of finding out where to get some particular item of marine equipment. If clerks in local marine stores don't know, remember, not all of them are boating experts; many were just hired off the street to mind the counter. Some will try hard to be of help, true, but you have to remember that what with the thousands of firms now active in the vast pleasure boating market, the young fellow or girl who has been minding the counter for the last two months has to be forgiven for not being omniscient.

So, it's up to you to play detective.

First thing to do is to inspect the equipment **thoroughly** for all marks. A symbol that at first might appear to be merely decorative may actually be the manufacturer's logo. Tour boatyards, showing the mark to experienced personnel. Somebody may recognize it and give you the company's name.

Assuming you know who made an item, you will now want to find their address. Or, you may be looking for some type of product—a particular type of fastener, or compound, or hardware item, or accessory. Ask marine dealers in your area to let you look into the marine trade directories they have (or should have) in their offices.

Each year one marine trade magazine, **The Boating Industry,** puts out an annual called "Marine Buyers Guide Issue." And another such magazine, **Boat and Motor Dealer,** puts out a similar annual they call their "Market Manual." In these publications you will find sections giving manufacturer names and addresses, and in other sections various marine items will be listed in alphabetical order. If you know a company's name, you can look up their address. If you are looking for belaying pins with which to discipline your crew, a list of makers of this type of product will be given under "Belaying Pins" or "Pins, belaying."

There are also directories that are sold to the general public. One is **Boat Owners Buyers Guide.** It's on sale in many marine stores, or can be ordered by mail from its publisher, Ziff-Davis Publishing Co., One Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016. Current price is $2.95 per copy. A similar guide which also includes fishing tackle and equipment in addition to marine products is **The Directory,** published by SWS, 10 High St., Boston, Ma. 02110. Some tackle shops sell it, or order by mail for $3.75.

If you have trouble finding a particular component part for some product—such as a certain switch for an electrical device—and can't find the maker in marine directories, go to your public library and ask to see **Thomas' Register of American Manufacturers.** It lists all kinds of products and practically all known manufacturing firms. If your local library is too small to have this directory, they will know of some library in your area that has it.

In boating magazines and especially in **Boat Owners Buyers Guide,** there are ads by mail order firms. If you live far from a large city, get the catalogs of such mail order marine firms as James Bliss Co., Defender Industries, Goldberg's, E&B Marine, Mail Order Marine, etc. Thru these you can mail order almost anything.

If your problem is finding parts for a foreign-made product and you cannot find a distributor listed in any of the foregoing directories, send $1 to the Chamber of Commerce of the United States, 1615 H. St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006 and ask for a copy of "Guide to Foreign Information Sources." Write to the trade commission or embassy for the country in which the item was made and ask for help in locating the manufacturer.

If your problem is finding parts for some marine product, the maker of which appears to have moved and left no forwarding address, or dropped out of the marine business, write to the Director of Corporations at the pertinent state capitol and ask if they have any information on the status and/or whereabouts of the sought-after firm.

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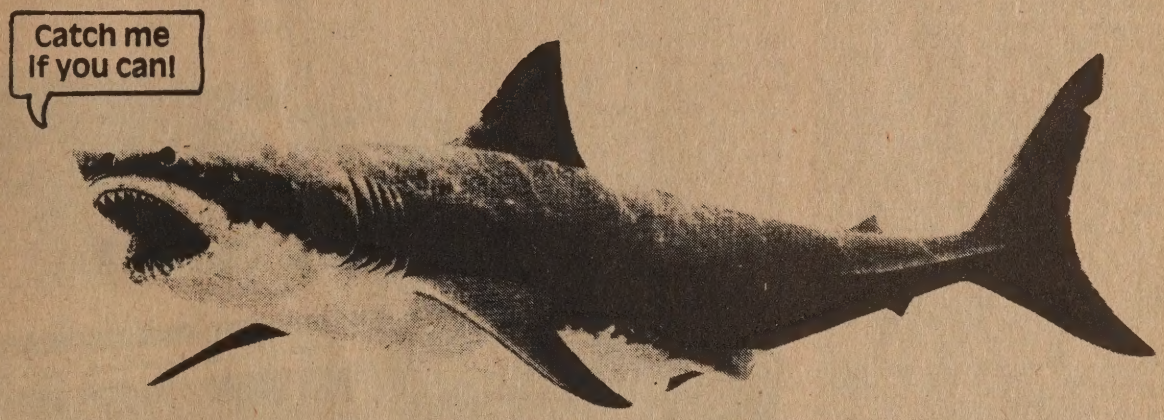

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The "Eaton's Neck Triangle"

by Don Avondolio

The scene is that of a bluefish blitz. An armada of fishing boats from 13 footers to 30 footers spread over a square mile are drifting in close quarters jigging for blues. Wherever one looks, rods are spotted throbbing to the tune of struggling blues. Part of the vast group are open boats loaded to the rails with anglers almost elbow to elbow. One nearby, cannot help but notice the flashing jigs being dropped erratically around the boat with blues brought to the surface repeatedly. Because of the hectic action, mates cannot get to the fish fast enough with their nets. If this scene is not contributory to excitement enough—another fact is evident. The captain's voices are heard throughout the area over a power mike screaming—"A hit on the stern," "Another on the bow," "Get the net," "Reel fast before the action stops" and so on. Frantic phrases shouted to the anglers which keep the hearts pounding.

The action described here is not uncommon and somewhat stereotypes the fishing scene in the Eatons Neck triangle area. This region is so named because of the triangular formation created by drawing a continous line from buoy 13, to buoy 11B, and then on to the obstruction buoy. For many years the triangle area has attracted both blues and fishermen for obvious reasons, in addition, bass, fluke, and weakfish have been caught here during their respective seasons. What attracts these predators to the triangle is well known and appreciated by the serious resident angler. The massive bottom formations, irregular rip-rap, rocky shoreline and the various shoal areas all contribute to the triangle's appeal. Strong turbulent currents pass over these bottom formations, tossing bait into a helpless situation which game fish love. Another attraction is the explosive sand eel population which has prevailed in the region. Last year, from early June through November, consistent catches of blues were made, usually from 2 to 7 pounds, in the triangle area. Ten pound weaks, school bass, and some doormat fluke catches were also reported, adding to the area's attraction.

At certain times the entire triangle region produced, but this was not the norm. Either 11B, 13, or even the imaginary connecting leg of the buoys was the successful fishing locale. Most daily outings will find schools of blues packed in an area or two; but other times these schools will be broken up or scattered. Some catches will be made by the angler trolling with umbrella rigs. Although they are not popular with some sport fishermen, umbrellas will positively indicate fish concentrations. As a general rule of thumb, during the ebb tide, fish will be north or east of the bottom structure edges. However, on the incoming or flood tide, the same schools will move to the south or west side of bottom edges. We can conclude that predator fish prefer the protection of underwater structure edges on the down current side. By interpreting tide tables, or even observing the lean of nearby buoys, one can determine exact direction of current flow at a particular time.

An invaluable fish locating tool for the serious fisherman, which also serves as a device for saving gas and time, is the chart recorder. With some operating experience, both baitfish and predator school locations can be immediately identified and pinpointed with significant accuracy.

Using efficient tackle and proper techniques for jigging blues and other predators is important; more so than some anglers realize. I say this because at times, fish can be finicky feeders. Whether it's the vast schools of bait available that contribute to this sometimes lockjaw condition is questionable. Nevertheless, knowledge of all the particular productive techniques can help offset the stubborn feeding habits sometimes encountered. As for tackle a fairly stiff, medium action, two handed 7' or 8' long boat rod is quite common for a jigging operation. Although I personally prefer the latter class of rod, some fishing friends of mine use a slightly whipper (or softer) rod action. The reason to support this usage is that a more flexible rod tip will impart a natural darting action to the jig on its retrieve. The only disadvantage is that it's harder to set the hook with this type rod action. Take your pick, as either rod will suffice for jigging.

For best line and lure control, the reel should be a conventional star drag type similiar to Penn's #140 squidder, #65, or Jigmaster #500M. The Ambassadeur 6000C, 7000 or Shakespeare's President Series are other good choices. I used Daiwa's Pro Caster SM2 reel this past year with great success. The most important features of this reel and several others previously mentioned are ball-bearing drive, 5 to 1 ratios, large handles, and a smooth drag. Monofilament, from 15 to 20 lb. test will get

Things get hectic aboard a New Rochelle open boat as the blues take hold.

the job done. Accordingly, the lighter line will cut through the water better (less resistance) and tend to flatten out the belly in the line as it reaches bottom. This means less line misdirection when jigging and a more direct position under the boat. Another important fact to consider is that a larger reel diameter when compared to a smaller reel diameter (handle turn ratio being the same) will move a jig at a faster speed. This could mean the difference between success and failure when a certain jig retrieve speed is required.

Since blues hit from behind a jig most often, I prefer tying the line directly to the jig using a uni-knot. To some fishermen, not using a wire leader is unheard of with blues; but I personally find jig loss to be minimal without wire leaders. The few times I lost a jig was probably caused by several blues attacking the lure at one time.

As for lures, jigs and tin in various shapes and sizes are popular. Selecting one that simulates exactly what the predators are feeding on at the particular fishing time is the challenge. Although wiggle and darting motions are prime objectives, shape, flash and color should also be selected in varying degrees to cover all situations that might be encountered.

Most important is the technique of jigging. For consistent success I will describe three popular jigging techniques used for catching bluefish. If executed prudently at least one of these retrieves will provoke blues into striking. For excitement, there is nothing like a bluefish strike on a jig during retrieve, and it sometimes happens when you least expect it.

The first jigging technique is to free fall the jig, let it bounce and then reel it up 20 turns of the spool and stop. Do this at a brisk speed. Pause awhile and then reel 20 turns more until the jig is brought to the surface. This technique is good for searching and locating the exact level of feeding. Blues generally prefer an extremely fast retrieve (especially when they are feeding ravenously).

The second technique is to free-fall the jig, bounce it and intermittently raise and lower it 6'' to 12'' off the bottom. Just leaving it lie on the bottom for a second or two could induce strikes. This last procedure is excellent for situations where blues are on the bottom, or hanging near the edge of a drop, or hole. By intermittently raising and lowering the jig slightly by sweeping rod tip you are imparting a motion similar to a sand eel struggling to escape by burrowing into the sand.

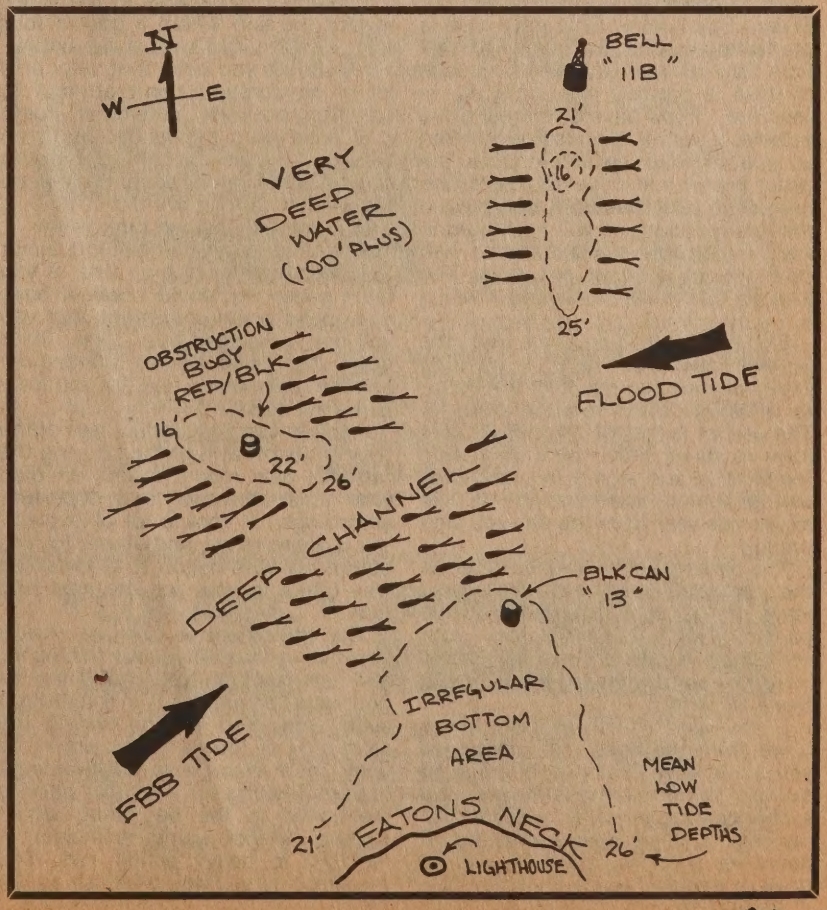
The third jigging technique is used to entice stubborn feeders and actually imparts the most tantalizing retrieve. Drop the jig to the bottom with a controlled free-fall. Retrieve at a slow to medium speed and every few feet or so add a darting action to the jig by changing speed from medium to fast. Repeat the procedure in consistent intervals. What we are trying to accomplish here is to copy the action of a wounded, fleeing baitfish. No predator would reject an attack on an easy meal especially if it appears wounded. It's a fact that wounded baitfish do not swim at a steady pace, but vary their movement speed during normal swimming.

With regard to the three retrieve techniques, realize that the jig is not directly under your boat. With drift speed (however slow) and lure line resistance taken into consideration, the line will belly out. I mention this only to compensate for ''belly'' as you interpret fish locations by chart recorder readings. The exact locations of fish pods per recorder printout will determine where your jig should be ideally. You'll also notice that the larger, heavier party boats loaded with anglers will spend more time catching fish. Their drift is slower, and longer time is spent over exact school locations. Also recognize the fact that all those flashing jigs close together below imitate a massive school of easy prey to the blue. To emphasize my point, once a school is located, spend more time over it rather than wasting time drifting an unproductive area. Thus, if during your drift, you see fish taken at a particular spot relative to a buoy or another reference point, set your next drift position close to the productive location as soon as possible. Of course, don't crowd other boats into a dangerous stiuation, use discretion and good sportsmanship.

In conclusion, several other tips worth mentioning that could contribute to your fishing success are as follows: Even though blues are the most prominent species in the triangle area, as mentioned previously, other predators are frequently available. Use the same three jigging techniques for weaks, and bass with the exception of slowing down the retrieve speed. Also, once a school of fish is found during a drift, circumvent the location on the start of a new drift. Don't run back over a school as this could scatter the fish, especially in shallow water. When jigging, 2 to 6 oz. jigs will cover most situation in the triangle area. Use different weights, with identical jig types to emphasize change of speed, or drop. This will also effect different line/lure positioning (relative to boat) on the bottom and during retrieve.

Another excellent jigging approach is to supplement the presentation with either a dropper fly, or tube. Several feet above the tin, attach a dropper 6'' off the line with a dropper loop. This suggests a fish chasing a smaller baitfish and is sometimes conducive to strikes when standard methods do not work. At certain times, this rig will take two blues during a jigging operation.

Like another well-known triangle, some wild things take place on these grounds. In the case of ''The Eaton's Neck Triangle'' however, those ''wild things'' are known as a bluefish blitz! See you there.



AREA PROFILE:

ROCKAWAY INLET

Part One — *by Denis Useo*

There is a body of water located between the Marine Parkway Bridge and the Tin Can Grounds which I don't hear many people talking about. The fact that they don't surprises me because it is easily fishable by either boat or surf, and working the area either way makes for a productive day. The species of fish available here include fluke, flounder, blackfish, sea bass, bluefish, and not at all uncommon to the regulars, striped bass.

In this article I plan to cover both modes of fishing the area, namely boat and surf, and the time to fish, the bait to use, where to obtain parking permits, and any other information necessary for your success.

Since it is harder for New Yorkers without a boat to find a place to fish close to home, I'll cover the surf fishing angle first.

One of the hottest spots the New York surf angler can reach relatively close to home, is a place called the Breezy Point Jetty. This jetty area is controlled by the Gateway National Park Recreational Dept. and because of this a permit for parking is required. If you have a 4-wheel drive vehicle, a permit can also be secured so you can take your rig onto the beach proper and drive right up to the jetty. If you are, like I am, confined to the family Sedan, we will be limited to the parking lot. A walk to the fish from the lot is about one mile. The exercise as well as the fishing is worth it.

Either permit is secured from the Gateway people on 169 St. in building #102 between the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 5PM, Monday through Sunday. The permit is free of charge. All you have to do is show them your auto registration and sign a log, and they will give you your permit. It will expire one year from the day you sign the log.

The parking permit is good between the hours of 8AM and 7PM. Just leave it on your dashboard while parked. Don't clip it under your windshield wiper; a seagull or some other unwordly scavenger might make off with it.

If you want to fish at other times aside from the ones just mentioned you would have to stop at building #4 during their business hours and exchange your permit for a key to the parking lot. It's locked during the off hours for your own good as well as mine. It's comforting to know at 4AM, that the guy parked next to you has only fishing on his mind.

If you have a 4WD you would also have to submit your permit for a key. Beach access by 4WD is locked 24 hours to those who don't have permits. It keeps the joy riders out and the ecology of the area stable. 4WD users will also be required to show some safety equipment such as tire pump, spare tire, jack, and jack stand or board, before they will hand over the key. They want you to be, as you should be, self-sufficient.

You can reach the Department in that area by calling 1-212-4600 if you have any questions.

P.S. Don't park without a permit, the rules are strictly enforced.

Once parked and unpacked you have a walk of about one mile. Of this walk 90% of it can be made walking on the beach rather than rock hopping if you prefer. The last 20% is strictly on the rocks.

There are two places in particular toward the end where a gap of four feet between rocks must be negotiated. Unless you have long legs or a lot of momentum, don't attempt to step from one rock to the other. Jump it. I have seen a guy get hung up between the two rocks once, his arm waving about his head trying to keep his balance. My buddy didn't think it was funny till I helped him.

The fall is about two feet into about four feet of water at high tide. If you fall I guess you could break a bone and spend a wet cold night, but you will not be washed out to sea. Once down there you are surrounded by smaller rocks which prevent you from going out to sea.

Another word of caution, part of the jetty is awash at high tide during the full and new moon period, so plan your time of arrival and departure accordingly. It took a lot of explaining, a dozen roses, and dinner for two before my wife began to understand why I had to wait for the next ebb tide.

The equipment to fish, as always depends upon what you are fishing for and how you plan to fish. Fishing for flounders requires an 8 to 9 foot light action rod. You will be fishing the calm side of the jetty and won't be using more than the minimal amount of lead. Fishing for the other species mentioned in the beginning would require, if not using artificials, a medium to heavy action rod. The reason being you would be fishing the point which is laden with mussels, rocks and a swift current. It would not be uncommon for you to have to resort to 4 or 5 ounces of lead to hold a fiddler in place.

Dressing for the occasion requires nothing more than rain gear and boots if you wish to stay dry. I have seen more people there who don't dress properly and spend more time dodging waves trying to keep dry than they spend fishing.

Flounder. People usually start off their season with these flatties. The best time for fishing these fish is in April and May. They may still be around during June, but by then I'm usually pursuing another species. The fish here respond most readily to worms, both sand and blood. Mussels may prove an OK bait too, but I find that I spend more time trying to keep it on the hook and less time fishing. Here as is usually the case the "Rule," "The less hardware the better," should be applied. The bottom is strewn with mussel beds, an excellent reason for the flounders presence and an excellent reason for the rule. Two hooks tied in tandem should be considered a maximum. Many times I use only one when I start getting hung up more than usual. You will be fishing the western section of the jetty. (See map.) Anywhere from the point to about 75 yards back towards your car will do. Just so long as you stay in the beds. When you stop getting hung up, you're too far from the point.

Blackfish and **Sea Bass.** I put these two species together because the tackle and the methods used to fish them are the same. The blackfish respond most readily to crabs, either green or fiddler. The green must of course be broken up but the fiddlers can be used as is. With the fiddler crabs break off the big claw and string it on the hook first, then follow it with the rest of the crab. Hook the body in such a way that the hook comes out of one of the leg sockets. It hangs onto the hook better during a cast, and if you feel a bite you could leave it down a bit longer hoping the black will find the hooked claw just as delectable.

As for rigging forget all you have learned about the use of tandem hooks for blacks. The bottom is so rocky here that only one hook will do. With two hooks you're looking for more trouble than you have bargained for, and with three hooks you've found it! The fish here rarely go over

4 to 5 lbs. so choose your hook size accordingly. What the jetty lacks in blackfish size is easily made up by brisk action.

The same thing applies for sea bass, as far as the number of hooks go. The bait used however is worms, sand preferred. Oh yes, you could use the worms and try to go for both species at once but there is one thing definitely you should know: if you want the bigger blacks that are hanging around, use crabs.

You will be fishing due south of the jetty. If the tide is running strong a 3 to 5 oz. sinker might be necessary to keep the crab stationary, so plan your equipment accordingly. Cast out as though you want to ring the bell on buoy R4. Once the sinker has touched bottom pick up the slack gently and hold it there. Don't drag that sinker along the bottom, it will only hang you up.

I know the following is going to sound elementary but for those who don't know it will be advice that will be appreciated. When you're to check your bait, yank back on the rod quickly and with all the speed you can muster up, start reeling in and don't slow down or stop till you have your rig ashore. The idea is to get your rig off the bottom quickly (hence the yank) and keep it off.

Enough has been said and written on gaffs lately that all I will say is that you should have one with you at all times. A long handled one preferred. There is no real safe way down to the water's edge. You may say, as I have said earlier in my fishing career, "I'm only going for sea bass, why do I need a gaff." You will never know when Mr. Bass might happen upon a sand worm intended for a sea bass. You will be standing on the jetty crying for a gaff and giving away tickets for free kicks. A lesson I learned the hard way.

Fluke. The fishing rod that you will be using for the fluke will be basically the same as for the blacks, only you will be using less lead. The terminal tackle of course will be different. Since you will be fishing the eastern section of the jetty which is basically sandy your choice of terminal tackle will be greater. Spoons however should be avoided, I have never had much luck with them on boat or shore. They cut down your casting distance quite a bit.

As for dinner, the simple combo of sand eel or spearing and squid will do. You want your bait to be moving so less lead will be fine, but don't go so low as to cut your casting distance.

Starting at the tip of the jetty cast eastwardly and parallel to Rockaway Beach. Take up on the slack and lock your reel, pull the bait along the bottom about 4 or 5 feet using your rod and take up the slack with your reel. If you feel like someone has taken your bait don't hook him yet. Mr. Fluke is a gentleman and doesn't gulp his food. Give him a chance to swallow it. Give him a little slack and

(Continued on next page.)

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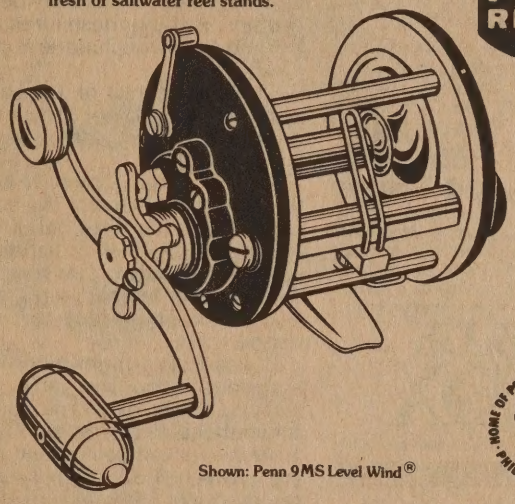

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count to ten and slowly put pressure on him. If he resists, sink the hook home and bring him in. If he's not on don't despair yet, continue fishing the rest of the way in. It is not unusual for another fluke to finish what may be remaining on the hook.

I like the extra bonus of fishing for fluke with artificials. You would fish the same area that you fished with bait. The extra bonus being a blue that will take it every now and then.

Bluefish. When around they are not particular as to what they will dine on. Any of the artificials, tin jig, bucktail, banana tube, etc., will do. Fish these from anywhere on the jetty, there is no particular spot on the jetty that can be considered consistently better than another. Fishing these lures as usual, with no special technique is all that is required.

Dunking chunks of bunker should work just as well, but I must admit, to my own surprise, that I have never tried it here.

Striped Bass. When it comes to fishing for the "God of the sea," man will exhaust his imagination on ways to subdue this "fish of fishes." There was this fisherman, two years ago, his name I never learned, who taught me that no idea is so silly that it should not be tried.

It was a slow night when this man happened upon the jetty. He was carrying an 8' or 9' rod, but with a conventional reel that outsized it 4 to 1. As he walked past us we could see there was a 3 oz. atom swimmer on the end. We jokingly took bets as to how he planned to cast such a mismatched rig. We both lost.

He took a seat on a rock not 20' from us, not even looking our way, and pulled from his vest a balloon and started to blow it up. He tied it about 4' from the plug, set it in the water and all, three of us watched as the wind pushed it out of sight into the darkness. About an hour later he gave the rod a few short yanks and commenced to work the plug in. It took him all of 20 or so minutes to do so. He finally got the plug to shore, put the end treble hook through the tiptop, and bade us a goodnight as he left. I have yet to see him again.

I apologize for going astray, now to get back to the topic on hand.

The bass will bite on swimmers, poppers, bucktails, and of course worms. The worms should be presented on basically what is commercially called a Bass Surf Rig. Two tandem tied hooks and an orange cork. One full worm to each hook if you want to succeed.

Directions for the cast is about the same as for the blackfish, due south and 90° to the west.

Fishing for bass here is strictly a nighttime proposition 2 hours before to two hours after high tide. Fishing during the slack water period is known here as the "Graveyard shift."

Moving off the jetty to the other side of the inlet we have a tranquil place to fish. I'm not talking about the "Platform in the Sky," (Coney Island Pier) but rather a place to the east of it and to the west of Manhattan Beach.

On a street map you would have to find a street by the name of Exater St. and take it to the waterfront. Exater St. is a dead end road with a respected group of house owners on either side. The road is not private, however it abounds with no parking signs. I park on the main street, one block away and walk. There are cars along the road parked with people fishing. I fish near home to save money, not to pay it to the Parking Violation Bureau.

Fishing under the street light is your best bet. It attracts all the smaller baitfish to the area. When casting don't go for distance, just try to stay around the circle of light. Fluke, snappers and occasional sand shark is what the waters there provide. This is an easy one, you're not in the water and don't really stand a chance of getting wet. Perfect place for a relaxing evening.

Head further east for awhile and you will come to the party boat capital of the world, "Sheepshead Bay." If the need to snag bunker for fishing elsewhere is ever upon you, you would have to look a lot longer for a better place than this. There isn't much elbow room for casting on the party boat side. During the summer it abounds with children snapper fishing and with adults from the restaurants sightseeing. However, if you follow Emmons Avenue around the small bay to the Kingsborough Community College side, you will have the area virtually to yourself. There is parking always available along that side, and you can snag till your heart's content.

Moving still further east from Sheepshead Bay we come to a creek known as Gerritsen Creek. To get there take Emmons Avenue eastward and get onto the Belt Parkway going eastward. In about four minutes you will cross your first bridge (don't blink). About 50' past pull over to the right and slow down when you get to the top of the bridge, the lot comes upon you mighty quick. Grab your gear, wife, and kids, lock the car, and walk about 100' to the fish. Although swimming is at your own risk (there are no lifeguards and the canal does drop quite quickly) I would not advise it. It does offer a sand beach where the kids can play and the young lady can get a suntan.

The fish caught here will not be of braggin' size but does offer some fun on light tackle. Flounders and snappers are about it for here. A blue now and then does fall prey for a popper or swimmer presented under the bridge, but it will require many man hours to produce a few fish. If bluefishing is your thing, take the family out another time and head toward the previously mentioned jetty.

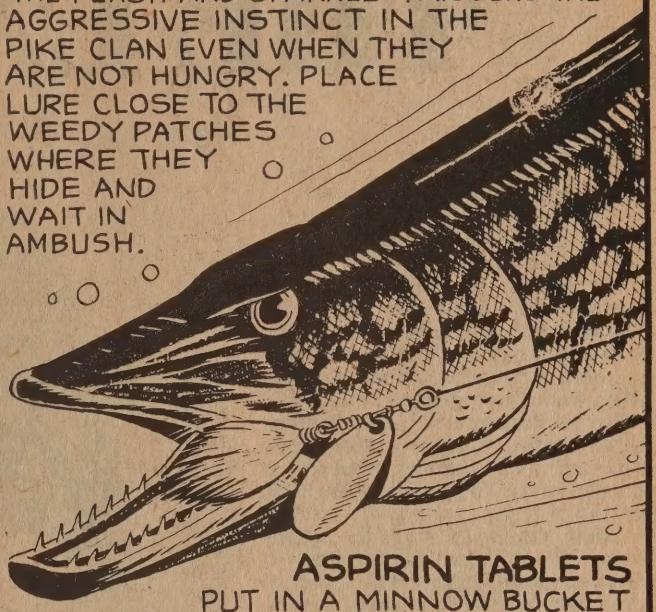
This inlet offers much more to the fisherman than what it appears to when first examined. Nearly every little crevice you can find a place to park will offer you some type of fishing.

FISHERMAN TIPS

BY FRED GUARDINEER

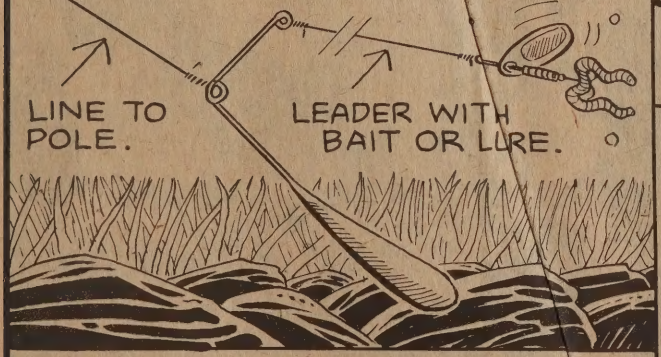
TO TRAP CRABS, *FRESH BAIT IS* IMPORTANT AND BEST BAIT IS A *FRESH FISH CARCASS.* IGNORE THE ADVICE OF THOSE WHO ADVOCATE ROTTEN CHICKEN NECKS ETC... *CRABS ARE FASTIDIOUS FEEDERS.*

SPARKLING SHINY LURES IS THE SECRET FOR CASTING AND TROLLING PICKEREL. THE FLASH AND SPARKLE TRIGGERS THE AGGRESSIVE INSTINCT IN THE PIKE CLAN EVEN WHEN THEY ARE NOT HUNGRY. PLACE LURE CLOSE TO THE WEEDY PATCHES WHERE THEY HIDE AND WAIT IN AMBUSH.



ASPIRIN TABLETS PUT IN A MINNOW BUCKET WILL REVIVE SICK AND DYING BAIT FISH. THEY'LL REMAIN ACTIVE AND LIVELY FOR A LONGER PERIOD OF TIME.

BAIT WALKER SINKERS ARE GOOD FOR TROLLING FISHING LURES OR BAIT ON ROCKY BOTTOMS BECAUSE ITS SHAPE HAS LESS DRAG AND RARELY SNAGS. THE LINE IS ATTACHED TO ONE ARM AS SHOWN AND A SHORT LEADER ATTACHED TO THE OTHER.



TWO BLADED PROPS ARE BEST TO USE WHEN WEEDS ARE A PROBLEM. TWO-BLADE PROPS CUT AND THROW GRASS MUCH BETTER THAN THREE-BLADE PROPS.

THE SWIM BLADDER OF A FISH EQUALIZES THE WEIGHT OF THE FISH WITH THE WATER IN WHICH IT SWIMS. THE BLADDER IS INFLATED WITH NITROGEN THAT REMAINS IN THE AIR AFTER THE OXYGEN HAS BEEN REMOVED BY THE BLOOD CORPUSCLES.

DON'T FORGET THE LADIES

by Matt Ahern

I first began dunking bait over a half-century ago and at that time fishing was strictly a man's game. There were ladies on the fishing scene, of course, but so few in number one might say they were conspicuous by their absence. Even simple snapper fishing was rarely brightened by their presence. Most ladies who fished at that time did so only when accompanied by hubands, fathers, brothers, or other male members of their families. But this is no longer true. Today, the ladies think nothing of going it alone. At the risk of being adjudged a traitor to my kinds, I say, "Thank God for that." If we have need for a lady's influence at home, why not on the fishing scene?

For some time now, when writing my Sinker Bouncing column, I have occasionally stated that the ladies were slowly but surely catching up with us fellows. I hope those words haven't been ignored, for certainly they are true. The evidence of this has become highly noticeable these past ten or so years. All one need do is look about him the next time he goes fishing.

Some fellows still scoff at the idea of any lady attempting to become a good fisherman. But not me; I find the ladies to be pretty shrewd. They will often attack common and annoying problems with an insight many of us fellows would cheerfully surrender our pet rod and reel to possess.

This I know, for often a lady will write and tell me that if I were to do so-and-so, this or that would not happen. Some of these suggestions often seem far-fetched, but when I try them out, damned if they don't solve my problem. And the peculiar thing is each suggestion is nothing more than a simple solution to what has been, for me, a distressing difficulty. And yet they are solutions based on a keen insight which has never been my privilege to possess.

And do the ladies ever have total recall. It seems they have no need to keep fishing records. I recall a personal incident which happened about ten years ago, a time when every sinker bouncer on Long Island was going through the doldrums of poor fluke fishing.

I was grumping about the house this one particular weekend, venting my spleen on the prankish fishing gods who had so impishly screwed up

This young lady seems mighty pleased with her first mackerel.

the fluke fishing to a fare-thee-well. Never had it been so bad. By late Saturday night, I must have gotten on my wife's nerves, for she said to me: "I hope I'm not going through another session like this tomorrow. Why don't you get out of the house—go fluke fishing, or something?"

"No fluke to catch," I said. "Oh—maybe one or two," I amended, "but not enough to make it worthwhile."

Quick as that proverbial wink, my wife replied: "You're not thinking, Matt. Remember when the kids were small and we fished that creek in the back bay off Merrick? That deep hole around the second bend where we caught all those fluke on that bunched spearing bait? Why don't you try there?"

I hadn't fished that particular area in fifteen years and had completely forgotten about it. But not my wife. And not only did I manage to catch five nice fluke from that hole, it w as my best single catch that entire summer. You figure it.

I know there are fishermen who resent the ladies horning in on their "territory." I can understand that and I certainly do not hold it against them. Tradition dies hard. But when it comes to fishing, I find that those ladies who go in for the sport are not driven by the thought that they must prove they are as good as the men. They fish for the same reason we all do: they also hear "the call." But those who consider fishing as an excellent way to "cut those men down to size," quickly fall by the wayside. There is no room in the fishing game for those who will not give the full measure of themselves.

Those ladies who take up fishing as a way of life discover soon enough that everything is not gold that glitters. I know, for instance, that it does go against their inherent sense of proper dress. No lady ever looks her best in a set of oil skins, complete with its often odorous bunker chum and skimmer stains. Therefore, those ladies who temporarily put the catching of fish above such mundance things most certainly deserve our respect. To them, it becomes part of the enduring. They take it in stride.

And lest we fellows think the ladies aren't tough enough to take the elements that they can't take and absorb punishment when required, let me relate an occurrence that happened aboard a party boat several years ago.

On this particular September day we were fishing the Iberia Wreck off Long Beach and doing pretty well with the sea porgies. As is likely to happen at this time of seasonal change, the weather turned miserable. A northeast breeze had steadily strengthened during the morning to an extent which eventually caused most of the passengers to fight off the effect of mal-de-mer. And one by one, they dropped out.

By noontime, only the skipper and I and our sole lady passenger were all who remained at the rail. That lady was seasick and miserable, but she would not give up. Even the mate had quit fishing—but not that lady. Retching and groaning and "chumming" with every lift and heave of the boat, she stood there at the rail between the skipper and I, catching fish for fish. Now that was one tough lady as anyone who has ever suffered a touch of seasickness will admit.

Now we come to something which has lately become a bone of contention. What is the correct descriptive name for a lady who fishes? I read some weeks ago that there is a movement afoot by those who know absolutely nothing about fishing to have the term "fisherperson" or "fishingperson" used as a blanket coverage for our lady anglers. Those names, to me, of course, sound assinine. Can you imagine a fisherman/writer describing a scene in this manner: "When I arrived at the creek, there were five persons fishing: three were fishermen, and two were fisherpersons." Quite silly, you must agree.

There's nothing wrong with calling a lady angler a fisherman. We all know what is meant. In fact, if you look up the word "fisherman" in Webster's, you will find its definition is: "One whose occupation is to catch fish." It does not say "a man who fishes." Simply one who fishes—what description is more to the point than that?

The other evening I watched an interesting TV program. One segment of this show had to do with a group of elderly ladies fishing aboard a West Coast party boat. They certainly were enjoying themselves catching albacore and other small members of the tuna family. I wished I could have joined them. Near the conclusion of the trip, the ladies were asked if they minded being called "fishermen." Some did; some didn't. But I thought one elderly lady put it all in a nutshell. She said as near as I can recall: "I don't care what you call me, sonny—just so long as you don't call me late for fishing."

I don't know who caught the most fish on that boat, but I'll bet I could make a pretty close guess. It is my thought that anyone interested more in the correct terminology of their participation in such an enjoyable pastime as fishing than in the actual fishing itself, will never go far in the game. It is my thought, too, that such "hair-splitters" do not stay with the game for long. They are doomed to failure from the start.

So, to all those ladies who truly enjoy the fishing game, I doff my fishing cap to you. You are among the best of life's blessings. I admire and respect you—always have.

And allow me to add "God bless you." You are the greatest.

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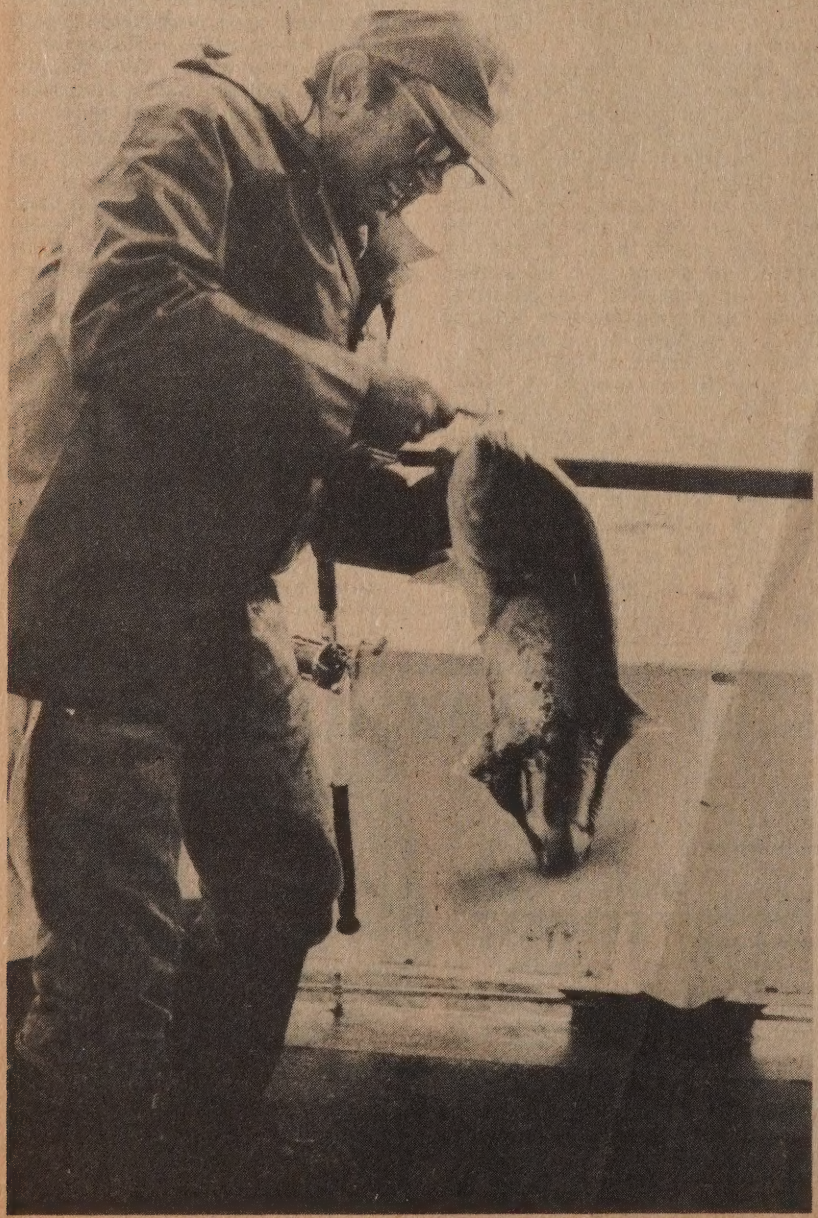
THOSE SUMMER BLUES

by Gerald Hahn

The bluefish is the most popular game fish in Long Island. No other fish of comparable size matches the viciousness of the chopper. Neither the striped bass nor the weakfish battles with the fierce determination of a bluefish. Moreover, with the increasing scarcity of stripers and weaks these days, more people are concentrating on blues than ever before. Unlike the erratic, brief runs of the other species, blues are kinder to anglers, their stay extending from Memorial Day to Thanksgiving.

Of course, this does not mean that you will catch blues whenever you fish for them, especially in the summer when the schools are scattered. One day, you'll catch more than you want; the next day you'll catch none. Still, there are "hot periods" in the summer when blues decide, in their fashion, to stay in one place for several days or nights.



On west end party boats, diamond jigs take most of the blues in the daytime, like this one with part of its tail section missing.

Small blues, from 2 to 5 lbs. are taken by small boat fishermen throughout the summer, at dawn or dusk, in the shallow south shore bays or the somewhat deeper regions of the Sound. However, large bluefish, from 6 to 16 lbs., are located in the ocean, along the south shore and off Montauk, in depths ranging from 80' to 120'.

Therefore, unless you can afford a charter or know someone with a suitable vessel, your best chance to catch large bluefish is on a party boat. Almost every major port on Long Island has a few party boats concentrating on summer bluefish, in the day and at night.

Many times, the most productive bluefishing takes place at night with bait. Rental tackle consists of a 6' or 7' conventional rod and a Penn 65 reel, filled with 40 lb. test; equipment used by regulars usually consists of an 8' rod, a fast retrieve Penn Jigmaster, and pink Ande monofilament, from 30 to 50 lb. test, depending on whether they are fishing in the east end or the west end. Although fishing methods are basically the same in both areas, rigs and baits are entirely different. In the west end, anglers use a 4/0 to 6/0 O'Shaughnessy hook on a 6" stiff wire leader connected to the hook at one end and to a black barrel swivel at the other end with haywire twists. Both the hook and the wire are colored brown, to reduce visibility. The wire leader is connected to the fishing line, either wtih an improved or a standard clinch knot, depending on the line's weight. When the bluefish are feeding higher up, a small rubber core sinker is attached to the line, about 2' or 3' above the hook. If they are feeding near the bottom, a 5 oz. bank sinker is connected about 6" below the hook with a piece of monofilament tied to a barrel swivel with an improved clinch knot and a loop at the other end for your sinker. Either way, the most popular bait in the west end is butterfish, although sometimes, sand eels, spearing, or strip or chunk baits cut from a menhaden are used. The butterfish is hooked through the eyes or through the mouth and out the gills, and then near the tail. With the lighter rig, casting is almost impossible, and most people free-spool the bait to the water and gradually pay out line. It is best to fish with this rig from the downcurrent side of the boat. The heavier rig may be cast or lowered directly to the bottom.

On the east end, most party boats use bait on day and night trips

On the east end, chain-n-drail rigs with whole bunker are more effective, day and night.

However, baits and rigs are much larger here. A whole bunker or a whole herring on a chain-and-drail rig is the most effective bait here. The rig is very heavy, consisting of a 10 oz. or 12 oz. inline trolling sinker attached to about 8'' of window sash chain. Two hooks are frequently used because the bait is so large. The top hook, an 8/0 O'Shaughnessy, is connected to the chain, near the sinker, by means of a split ring; the bottom hook, a 10/0 O'Shaughnessy, is mounted to the end of the chain. The chain is connected to one end of the sinker with a large duo-lock snap, and the top end of the sinker connects to the main line with a clinch knot. The sinker has two eyelets for the connections at both ends. Sometimes, a shocker of 80 lb. test is used for extra security against the large bluefish in the teen class.

The bait is rigged first with the top hook, forcing the point through the bottom of the jaw and out the top of the head. Then the chain is pulled taut along the side of the bait, and the bottom hook is impaled just ahead of the tail. The hooks should be checked for fish scales on the barb or point. In the east end, baits should be replaced if they are partially eaten.

Fishing with bait in either area can be tricky. Fortunately, some bluefish pounce on the bait, and the angler encounters an exciting battle immediately. Unfortunately however, many bluefish are cagey with bait and a momentary pause is required before setting the hook. Thereafter, the same arm-breaking bout will follow.

For me, the most exciting bluefishing takes place during the day with lures. In the extreme west end, fishermen sometimes use banana splits or surge tube lures, but almost every place else, diamond jigs seem to be more effective. On the west end, 2 oz. to 4 oz. jigs are favored whereas 8 oz. to 12 oz. jigs are common on the east end. Perhaps the bait is larger to the east and the currents stronger. At any rate, the chromed jigs may be smoothly polished or patterned with a texture, with or without a split-tail tube on the hook. Some days the bluefish prefer jigs painted white or covered with heat-shrink tubing in white, green, or red, but most of the time, they prefer the metallic flash of this lure which resembles a sand eel. When bluefish are not in the mood, working a diamond jig can be tiresome. When they are responsive, the fishing is faster and more exciting than working with bait. Blues do not have the time to toy with a jig, they hit it hard and the hook-up is quick.

Many fishermen use fast retrieve reels when working with a diamond jig. The most popular today are the Penn Jigmaster or the Daiwa 50H, although lately, some anglers have been investing in the more expensive,

(Continued on next page.)

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still faster, Newell reel, with its 5:1 ratio. Frankly, I think that too much fuss is made about high speed reels. Most bluefish strike the lure just off the bottom when the retrieve has barely begun. Moreover, when the fish are scattered, the angler who can cast with conventional gear catches the most fish regardless of the reel's speed. And if the fishing really slows down, bait will be more effective than lures.

No matter which reel you prefer, a diamond jig must be worked, if it is not to be rejected by a blue. Tied directly to the main line with a clinch knot or to a shocker that is connected to the main line with a blood knot, the lure is cast or lowered to the bottom. As soon as the bump is felt, it is retrieved rapidly, about 5 to 10 revolutions of the handle. Then, it is immediately dropped back. When bluefish are feeding near the bottom, this method will often take them within the first three turns of the handle.

Some days however, blues are more active at shallower depths. When this happens, lower the jig to the ocean floor and then reel all the way to the surface without a stop. Once you determine the level at which the fish are feeding, you can adjust subsequent drops accordingly. One day last summer, I took three-in-a-row just below the surface using this method.

More than any other reason, beginners lose blues because of tangled lines. When a tangle occurs, the line may break, especially if it is lighter than the other lines. Even if it is the same weight or heavier, the tangled line reduces pressure on the blue and the fish can spit the hook. This applies to fishing with bait as well as with artificials. Therefore, if your fish is way out, move behind your neighbor and pass the rod over him or her. If your fish is in close, and your neighbor's line is far out, move in front of him or her. Beginners also lose fish because they fail to pre-set the drag under the line's breaking point. Either the line pops from the jolt of a blue or the fish wears a hole in its mouth and throws the hook.

Another factor to consider is spooling the line back properly. No matter whether you are fishing with artificials or bait, apply thumb pressure to the back of the spool and hold onto the line (with your other thumb or between the thumb and index finger) in front of the spool, to slow down the fish. Moreover, the line should be spooled back in criss cross fashion onto the reel, even as you are playing the fish. Finally, lines should be checked for abrasions after every bout or tangle, and cut back, if necessary.

All these things can be learned quickly if you want to catch large bluefish in the summer. East or west, day or night, bait or lures, join the rest of us, and you will soon agree that the blue is the finest gamester in town.

Montauk Report

by Stu Miller

The **Montauk Captains Association** Charity Shark Tournament is being held this weekend, July 11th and 12th (Saturday and Sunday) at **Star Island Yacht Club**. Judges will be Al Ristori, Newsday outdoor columnist Nick Karas, Jerry Kenny of the Daily News and LIF Publisher Rich Reina. Jack Casey will officiate at the weigh-in on behalf of the Shark Tagging Program. Congressman Mario Biagi will be in attendance and will be a guest of MCA. Drawing prizes will be awarded Saturday night. Cash prizes will be awarded Sunday night. Largest shark wins $3,000, Second largest winds $2,000, and Third Largest shark gets $1,000. Charity donations which will approach $7,000 will be given to the Heart Fund, Cancer Fund, Montauk Ambulance Fund and Montauk Little Leagers. The MCA itself makes no money on this tournament. Capt Joe McBride advises that there are over 100 boats entered.

Capt Fred Bird reports that the **Flying Cloud** and **Little Bear** have been having excellent porgy fishing at Pocketbook, in front of the Lighthouse and off Gardiner's Island, fish running ¾ to 2 lbs. with anglers catching anywhere from ½ pail to a full pail of these mixed sized dinner plates.

Capt Paul Forsberg of the **Viking Fleet** is very happy with the Montauk fishing picture, telling us that the codfishing at Cox's Ledge is fantastic. Norman Bitchelman of Rockaway scored with a 35 lb. pool fish and 19 other cod Saturday, all on bait. Cod are averaging 8 to 10 lbs. and there are plenty of them. The night bluefishing off Block Island has been absolutely super, said Paul and the boat is returning early every night. All the blues you can handle he says, it's just like September fishing with all fish in the high teens hitting baits, jigs and anything else you throw at them. Porgy action took an upswing Sunday at the Point and at Pocketbook. Fish were mixed sizes and there were quite a few jumbos. The half-day fluking has picked up to the tune of 6 to 7 keepers a man with plenty of action in north rips. Paul says that he is running the fluke trips with the **Viking Starship** this season.

Maureen at **Gone Fishing Marina** tells of excellent fishing at the Point this weekend with anglers jigging blues, weaks and some bass. The charter boat **Nostalgia II** on Saturday night had a boat load of mixed weaks from 8 to 10 lbs. and blues from 5 to 6 lbs. Flounders being caught at Cans 3 and 5 between Shagwong and the Point. Porgies are also being caught off the Lighthouse and at Pocketbook.

Capt Joe McBride of the charter boat **My Mate** reports a good week of inshore fishing for blues and weaks on the south side of the Elbow. Jumbo blues still being caught south of Cartwright for chummers and jiggers. Offshore sharking produced a decent mako with an estimated 300 pounder being lost at the boat on a broken leader. Joe says he still has a few open offshore dates.

Capt Gary of the charter boat **Barracuda** reports he's had excellent inshore and offshore fishing all this past week.

Jerry Shapiro fishing the Butterfish Hole on the boat Wet Dream II hooked and landed a 378 lb. thresher shark on the weekend.

Capt Ron on the charter boat **Julie III** called to say that the trip Saturday for George Romer resulted in a catch of 23 weakfish up to 9½ lbs., 16 bluefish and 200 lbs. of porgies all taken off Montauk Point and at Great Eastern.

Capt Fritz Hubner of the charter boat **Mistress Too** reports that Monday's trip saw Robert McCloud bag a 245 lb. mako amongst several other shark. Tuesday's trip saw George Mash deck a 264 lb. mako. On Thursday Bob Lockhardt had nearly 100 mixed blues and weaks while Saturday's trip for A. Demeurio of Staten Island boated a 248 lb. mako, 2 large duskies and several blue shark. Sunday's trip for J. Roa resulted in a 73 lb. mako plus some blue and brown shark.

Charter boat **Adios** reports sharking excellent this week. John Garrone's group had a total of 20 blue shark which were all tagged and released. Wednesday's charter for Broadway Deli of the Bronx caught a 220 lb. mako and several blue sharks. Friday saw Bill Harrison of Islip take a 150 lb. mako. Saturday's half-day trip scored with over 70 murderous bluefish. Sunday's charter for Richard Vaobden of Shirley had a 37 lb. mako dropping a much larger one estimated at over 250 lbs.

Capt John DeMaio of the charter boat **Vivienne** called to tell of good

A pair of makos weighing 206 and 165 lbs. taken by the Maglaccio party aboard the "Adios."

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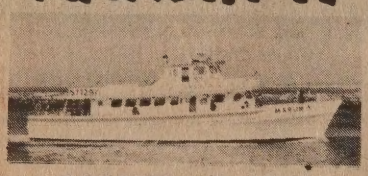

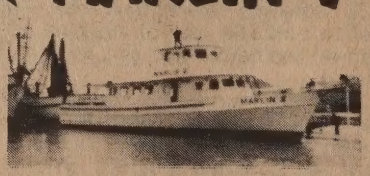

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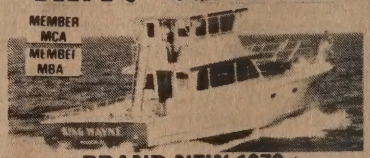

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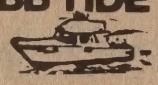

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Don and Maureen Johnson with a haul of cod and blues taken aboard the "Vivienne" at Montauk.

weakfishing all week long with a typical catch being roughly 90 weakfish on a half-day trip, fish 6 to 12 lbs. from Shagwong to the south side on diamond jigs, bucktails and single tubes.

South Shore Report

by Fred Golofaro

HAMPTON BAYS

John at **Corr's Fishing Station** reported the highlight of this past week was the 14 lb. doormat fluke taken by Robert Darrow right out in front of the marina. The best fluking has been out front at the south end of the canal. Keeper ratio has improved with some nice fish now starting to show. Flounder still in good supply at the Basket area and the Coast Guard Station while boats running through the canal into Peconic Bay have been returning with some good porgy catches. Blues in the inlet area being trolled by private boats while offshore anglers continue to return with some nice makos. On Saturday, the Blue Water Drifter had makos of 210 and 185 lbs.

MORICHES BAY

Gary at **Silly Lily Fishing Station** said that fluking continues to improve on a steady basis. The size of the fish is up as well as the numbers. On Sunday, Luke and Lenny Stockwell along with Narine Ramlogan took 45 fluke between buoys 38 and 39 on

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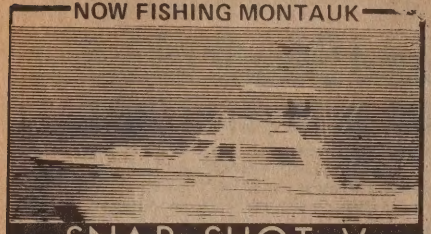

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incoming water. Most productive baits have been sand eel and squid and sand eel and spearing combos.

Fromk **L&M Fishing Station** Kim said that despite the weather fluking was very good with a 50-50 keeper to short ratio. On Friday, John Blake and Mark Ligatore teamed up to put away 14 keepers, most in the 2½ to 3 lb. class. They fished the buoy 43 area with sand eel and squid combos. Flounder still available at buoy 39, with the top of the flood producing the most action. On Friday, Ray Cuevas, Jean Martin and Al Goldberg totalled 137 flounder fishing in this area. They chummed heavily with mussels and used blood worms for bait.

Jim at **Skidmore's Fishing Station** labelled the fluking as good, especially in the buoy 39 area where the keeper ratio is 75 to 25. Best action here has been on the last of incoming and the first of outgoing with combo baits of spearing and squid or sand eels and squid accounting for the most fish. Jim noted that there are a decent number of fish at buoy 41 and 44 also, with a smaller ratio of keepers to shorts in these areas. Despite the lousy weather over the weekend, Jim said some boats did get out and did well with the summer flatfish.

MASTIC BEACH

Bill at **Stiriz' Fishing Station** spoke of a noticeable improvement in the size of the fluke coming out of the area. This past week, he weighed a few flatties in the 5½ to 8 lb. range. Most boats have been averaging 10 to 12 keepers with both sand eels and killies working equally well. Small weakfish are from the bridge to buoy 17 on Salty Dogs and squid strips. Bay blues still around the same area as the weaks. Bill called the crabbing spotty but said there are a few around.

SAYVILLE

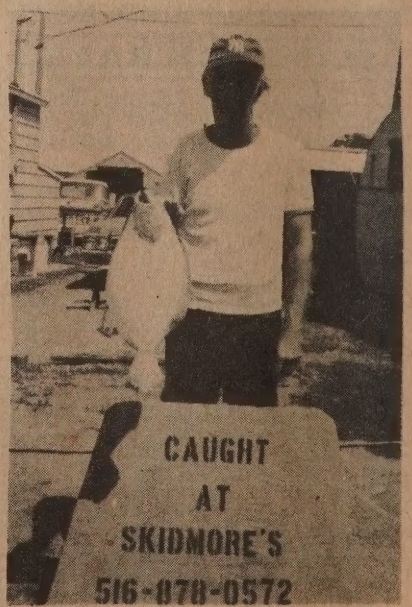
Fred of **Formato's Fishing Station** said that despite Saturday's lousy weather Angelo Rosario journeyed over to Ocean Beach where he was well rewarded for his efforts. He used both jelly worms and squid strips to take a mixed bag of 6 weaks from 6 to 10 lbs., some porgies, sea bass, fluke and blues. Needless to say, Angelo was ecstatic about his fine catch. Fred added there have been blues from 1-4 lbs. in addition to some fair sized fluke at Ocean Beach. Small weaks are off of Heckscher behind the clam dredges.

WEST SAYVILLE

From **South Bay Fishing Station**, Bill reported a pretty slow week due to the bad weather. When boats get out, they are finding fair numbers of fluke spread from Nichols Point to Ocean Beach. Squid and sand eel combos seem to be working best. Small weakfish have been showing up in the same area and small blues are being taken on rigs meant for fluke. Some crabs and eels at the West Avenue dock for pier fishermen.

OAKDALE

Dave at **J&R Sports Center** checked in a few nice fish this past week. On Saturday, Donna Edgar checked in a sea bass of 4 lbs. 14 oz. which she took at Ocean Beach on a jelly worm meant for a weakfish. Shelly Entin had a 9½ lb. weak while Wayne Mahy had a 2.3 lb. brook trout in the Connequot River. Dave added that there are a lot of fluke around but many are small and must be returned. Tony Castellano and a friend put away 49 keepers last Thursday fishing near Fox Creek Channel with sand eels and squid. Fish ranged from 14" to 18"



Dan Mahoney displays the 5½ lb. fluke he caught south of buoy 43 in Moriches Bay. He left from Skidmore's Fishing Station.

These big cod and pollack were the result of a recent Nantucket Wreck trip by the "Viking Starship."

and the pair returned nearly twice as many. For crabbers, a fair showing of blue claws at the West Sayville dock.

EAST ISLIP

Mike at **Peppy's Bait and Tackle** looked over a nice catch of fluke on Sunday made by John Rodergien. The biggest flattie was a 3 lber. Wayne Conlin weighed in a 40 lb. striper over the weekend, while Anthony Mercoaliano found another kind of bass in a local pond. Anthony's prize largemouth tipped the scale at 5½ lbs. Plenty of blues in the bay for pluggers. Richie Simmons, his neighbor Paul and father-in-law Joe Caiti worked the area between buoys 10 and 2 Saturday morning in the rain and put away 20 choppers ranging from 2-6 lbs. on popping plugs.

BAY SHORE

Captain Neil Delanoy of the open boat **Casey Lee**, reported very good fluking on Friday, Saturday and Sunday despite the weather. Fares averaged 6 keepers apiece and high hook each day had from 10 to 15 keepers. Quite a few short fish still around. The skipper has been fishing Dickerson Channel, West Channel, Ocean Beach and Sailors Haven with fish being taken on both incoming and outgoing water. Spearing or sand eel and squid combos have both been effective on the flatties.

Carl at **Smokey's Bait & Tackle** reported a 2½ lb. fluke along with five other keepers and a bluefish for 9 year old Mickey Peppey on Friday. He was fishing near the lighthouse. Best bet for fluke according to Carl has been West Channel where there have been less throwbacks. A few blowfish and sea bass being taken at Ocean Beach while umbrella rig trollers have been taking fish from the lighthouse down to the inlet. One boatman over the weekend chummed a mess of blues in Steamboat Channel including a 12 lber. Crabs now in good supply

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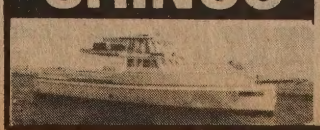

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FLUKE
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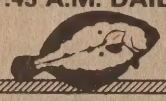

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from the local docks, with box traps accounting for the best scores. Offshore fishing this past weekend was nearly a total loss due to the weather.

CAPTREE

Captain Speedy Hubert of the **Speedy VI** reported he had to run well to the west to find action over the weekend. Jigs accounted for decent numbers of small choppers. Sunday's PM trip signalled the first solid fishing at the Patchogue grounds. Several of the Captree boats zeroed in on the Outer Banks grounds and did a number on the choppers.

Captain George Tweedy of the **Capt. Scotty** found the fish during the day on Sunday when 45 choppers from 6 to 14 lbs. were taken on jigs. Many more were lost. As a result of this action the night fleet returned to the scene and really loaded up. Prior to this action, the skipper had been running west to the Mud Hole.

Captain Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen** said that despite the weather over the weekend fluking was pretty good. He estimated that between 100 and 150 keepers were taken each day with the pool fish usually in the 3-4 lb. range. The skipper has been doing most of his fishing at West Island and Ocean Beach where there seems to be larger fish. From the bridge to the State Channel smaller fish seem to predominate. Killies and sand eels have both been producing. Of the bluefishing, Gordon said through Saturday he had been fishing the 3 Sisters wreck area and doing okay with 2-5 lb. class fish. On Sunday, however, the Patchogue Grounds opened up and 16 passengers totalled 200 choppers. Most were in the 5-7 lb. class, but there were some 12-14 lbers. mixed in as well. Michelle Swanson was high hook with 25 blues. Daytime action is with jigs while at night it is primarily bait.

Captain Ritchie Leitch of the open boat **Capt. Leitch** reported decent fluking despite the weather over the long holiday weekend. The 4PM trips run by Captain Ken Berkire have also been productive with the keeper ratio continuing to improve on a steady basis. On Sunday, 23 fares totalled around 100 keepers. Joe Cohn was high hook with 11 flatties. On Friday, Tony Danza of "Taxi" fame, his dad, and his 7-year-old son Mark totalled 12 keepers between them.

The open boat **Capt. Ben Litwin** reported quite a bit of fluke action with larger fish spread from the inlet to West Channel and smaller fish in the State Channel. Howard Setkowski put away a 7 lb. fluke and a 4 lb. sea bass over the weekend.

The open boat **Capt. Rod** skippered by Captain George Bartenback has been enjoying good fluking with a lot of action most days. A fair number of 2 lb. class fish are starting to show but there are still quite a few shorts around to keep things hopping. Bigger fish seem to be concentrated in the inlet area, while the state channel is loaded with short fluke. On Saturday, Bill and Ann Fox totalled 14 keepers including a 6 lb. pool fish. On Sunday , 8 year old, Shari Kar took the pool with a 5½ lber. and had 6 other keepers as well.

Charter boat **Lady Ann** reports a steady improvement in the fluking. Sunday's charter for the 1421 Fishing Club resulted in 141 keepers including many 3 lb. fish. Fishing was done at East Island and Ocean Beach with spearing, sand eels and squid. While the group had action all day long, the best of the fishing was on the last of the flood and the first of the ebb.

Charter boat **Blue Albatross II** reported a good trip for Saturday's charter led by Ann Manco. Fishing the inlet area, a lot of nice fluke up to 3½ lbs. with very few throwbacks came aboard. Pool winner for the day was John Palmieri of Hamden, Ct., with a 3½ lber. On Sunday, the

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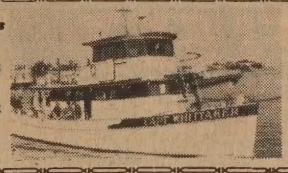

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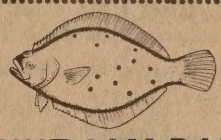

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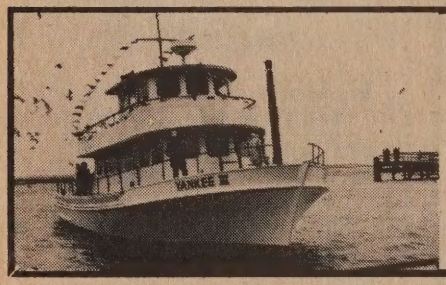

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skipper fished the State Channel and the inlet area with a group headed by Larry DiSantis. They had a mixture of nice sized fish and throwbacks. Killies seem to work best with sand eels a close second.

BABYLON

Freddy at **Augie's Bait & Tackle** said that despite all of the miserable weather in recent days, two boats did make it out to the Canyon. On Friday, Ted Freund ran his Irish Faker and returned with a 62 lb. yellowfin and 12 albacore to 25 lbs. On Monday the Jo-Lynn returned with 2 tuna over 200 lbs. in addition to a load of albacore. In the bay, Captain Al Lorenzetti of the Skimmer checked in with 17 keeper fluke including one carrying a DEC tag worth $3. Blues are at the lighthouse and in Steamboat channel and according to radio chatter, were wall to wall in the inlet Monday AM. Ed Olsen took a 31 lb. bass from the inlet during the week.

Charter boat **Lucy II** had a shark fishing trip abated by rough seas but still managed to troll up a load of 2-3 lb. blues outside of Fire Island Inlet. A group headed by Tom Ormsby were the beneficiaries of the bluefish action The party also dropped a 30 lb. striper at the boat. They rounded off the day with some fluke taken from the bridge to the inlet on killies and squid.

LINDENHURST

Mike at **Lindenhurst Bait and Tackle** said that news was difficult to come by this weekend due to the miserable weather. Those that did get out noted an improvement in the size of the fluke being taken. Best action has been in State Channel and Snake Hill Channel with combo baits of killie and squid or sand eels and squid. Ed Thomas is the current leader of the shop fluke contest with a 3.2 lber. Blues being trolled at the inlet on umbrella rigs.

AMITYVILLE

George at **Combs Bait & Tackle** noted an improvement in the size of fish at West Island, Squaw Island and in the State Channel. Smaller fish continue to predominate in Massapequa Cove. Few bass around at the bridges and in the bay on live bunkers and clam chum with a few big blues hitting bunker as well. Crabbing has improved in Seaford Creek and in the drains around the Amity Cut and West Island. Very, very small snappers starting to show at local docks.

SEAFORD

Captain Brian of the open boat **Chinco** reported fluking remained good during the week. The fish are spread out over a large area and the ratio of keepers to shorts seems to change almost daily but there are always enough keepers to keep customers happy. Pool fish is usually

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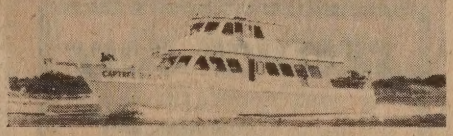

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Lon at **Wansers Bait and Tackle** spoke of a lot of fluke action in Massapequa Cove, Goose Creek and at Four Corners. Still a large number of shorts, but plenty of keepers also. Flounder still available at Short Beach and the Meadowbrook bridge. A few bass on bunker and clam chum at the bridges and some weakfish being taken on sand worms at the 3rd bridge and Blacks Bank after dark. Plenty of bluefish offshore as the shark crowd has been having a difficult time escaping the choppers.

From **Pop's Fishing Station** John Dombrowski said that there are lots of fluke around with many shorts but a couple to 4 lbs. One out of four of the fish are keepers. Squid and killie combos seem to be the most effective bait. John suggested fishing the buoy 13 area on outgoing water. He added that a few seabass, weaks and blows are mixed with the fluke.

BELLMORE

From **Merrick Tackle,** Scott spoke of plenty of fluke in Reynolds Channel, Swift Creek and Jones Inlet. Many of the fish are still shorts however. As an example, one customer was able to keep only 6 out of the 40 fluke he landed. A lot of pound size blues around in the bay and at the inlet for casters and trollers. Also quite a few school bass being chummed in the State Channel while a few big fish are being livelined on bunker. Not surprising is the lack of offshore news for the past several days.

MERRICK

Jimmy at **Nick's Fishing Station** reported lots of fluke action but plenty of shorts as well at Merrick Point and in Sloop Channel. Plenty small blues inside the inlet Sunday morning and a few bass still around. Buddy Holmes used a bunker to take a 29 lber. Offshore news was lacking due to the weather.

New York Bight Report

by Stu Miller

FREEPORT

Capt Bill of the charter boat **Ivory Queen** called to say that F. Protano of Rosedale and party caught 37 bluefish fishing in 6 to 8' seas while sharking outside Jone's Inlet on the weekend. They also tagged and released 1 blue shark estimated at 100 lbs.

The **Capt Lou Fleet** reports excellent fluking all week, with hi hook in the teens everyday. Thursday saw Dave, a regular, take the pool with a 6

lb. fluke. The same day a 5 lb. fluke and several 4 pounders were also pulled in. Occasional blues and sea bass are also mixed in the daily catches and Capt Mike says there is plenty of action which includes lots of short fluke. On the half-day boat the CL IV has been doing very good fluking also, best on the a.m. tides on sandeels, killies and squid. Mike says a new body of larger fluke have moved in as the season continues to build.

Capt Spider Schmidt on the **Aloma II** tells of very good fluking all week. The skipper says that Sunday fares averaged 10 to 12 keepers a man fishing Jone's Inlet right in the breakers, fish up to 4 lbs. The night bluefishing trips have been seeing catches of 5 to 18 blues a man fish up to 10 lbs. This has been in the area of the Three Sisters on bait and chum.

The **Capt Bill**, sailing two half-day fluke trips daily, tells of the 5 lb. 3 oz. fluke hoisted aboard Thursday for Mrs. Eleanor Goldberg of S. Hempstead. Sunday's pool fish went 3½ lbs. Pool fish are averaging 3½ lbs. on every trip. Still a lot of throwbacks around affording plenty of action but enough keepers mixed in to make the game worthwhile. The boat has been fishing local creeks and channels.

The **Capt Al** says the day bluefishing couldn't be better than it is right now. It's all jigging and things have been excellent all week. Thursday saw nearly 1000 bluefish for 29 fares, with everyone calling it quits at 1 p.m. due to the wearies. Thursday through Sunday saw solid catches of bluefish, mostly 5 to 6 lbs. with a few 9 pounders mixed in and a scattering of bonita and weakfish amongst them. Al says blues are all over the place.

The **Starstream II** tells of good solid catches of bluefish from 1 to 5 lbs. less than an hour from the dock with a scattering of weakfish to 10 lbs., all on diamond jigs. On the night trips, fares are baiting and chumming blues 3 to 10 lbs. and an occasional bruiser fishing from the Three Sisters to the BA. Capt Richie says the bluefishing is building and that there are a lot of fish around now and it looks like another super bluefish season is upon us.

Larry Izzo at **Mako Marina** called to give us the results of the Charvin Shark Tournament. Out of 70 boats entered, the Apus I skippered by Capt Tony Carni took 1st place with a 269 lb. mako. Capt Mike Miller at the wheel on the Apus II nailed down 3rd place with a 145 lb. mako. Larry says lots of makos have been taken in the last two weeks aboard the Apus Fleet. This weekend's catch was made in 130' of water. Larry also mentions lots of 1 to 1½ lb. blues being caught in the Inlet and a fair amount of keeper fluke being culled out from the shorties. The reader should also note that the Apus boats took 3rd place in this shark tournament in 1980 and 2nd place in 1979. On July 18th, Mako Marine's Invitation Shark Tournament will be held. If you are

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Hook, Line & Sinker Bait & Tackle reports bluefin and yellowfin tuna up to 150 lbs. being caught this past week at the Texas Tower on 6 inch and 9 inch rigged skirts. Fluking continues with shorts and keepers in Reynold's Channel, Swift and Long Creeks, on sandeels and squid. Blues at Cholera on jigs and on bait.

The **Blue Fin Fleet** reports that fluking continues with lots of action and enough keepers to make it interesting. The pool winner for the week aboard the **BF II & III** was Tony Amata of Staten Island of Nomura Corp. with a 6 lb. 8 oz. fluke caught on fish belly and spearing at the Inlet. Several 3 to 4 lb. range fish were caught this past week. Ninteen blues up to 1½ lbs. were also caught in the Inlet on fluke rigs. Capt Charlie Adams had one of the boats offshore Sunday and fares jigged blues up to 12 lbs. and also had them on bait and chum.

Anthony's Fishing Station tells us that in Saturday's rain, one customer stayed out all day and came back with 11 keepers working Fundy Bay with squid and killies. He also must have done a heck of a lot of bailing. There's been an improved keeper ratio and the keepers are good sized now. All the skiffs that went out Sunday came back with atleast a few keepers.

Freeport Boatmen's Association tells us that the **Super Spray II** has been having very good results on their 2 a day fluke trips fishing locally at Reynold's Channel and in Jone's Inlet and Swift Creek, no attaining a 50 percent keeper ratio. The night bluefish trips continue to be very good on chum and hook bait mainly but also fish responding to jigs. Pool fish are running up to 14 lbs. and fares are bagging up. On Sunday the Barbara Ann trolled a good number of blues from 3 to 5 lbs. at the Three Sisters. The Christy Lee IV had the first decent tuna catch of 50 lb. class yellowfin in 190' of water due south of JI. They also had 4 longfin tuna from 20 to 25 lbs. and several bluefin tuna in the 30 lb. class. Exactly what they were trolling is unknown at this writing. Sunday saw the **Capt Joe** working the west bar of Jone's Inlet for 125 keeper fluke and a hi hook of 19 keepers. The pool fish went 3½ lbs.

Capt Walt Scott of the **Freeport Charter Service Acme II** reports the trip for the Bill Baylis Hospital Financial Management Group enjoyed good fluking off Playland and Pt. Lookout this week. A good mix of shorts and keepers up to 3 lbs. saw all 41 passengers digging in. On another trip Howard and Paul Abrams made their 10th annual bluefish trip, but heavy seas made them turn back for a day of fluking and some nice keepers were picked up off Pt. Lookout and Reynold's. Friday's trip for Alan Silverman saw a banner fluke day with fish up to 4 lbs. at Point Lookout

and many 2 to 3 pounders at the Inlet. There was also a good pick of mixed fish off Doxee's. The charter for the Pizzonia group of Brooklyn hit small blues at the number 2 can and 3 to 5 lb. blues south of Cholera followed by 12 to 15 lb. choppers at the Mud Hole.

BALDWIN

Jan from **Thompson's Deli** reports that 4 anglers on the private boat Mad Viking out of Milburn Creek totaled 6 large fluke in just 1 hour taken just prior to the down pour on Saturday on sandeels in Reynold's Channel. Lots of flounders still being caught in Baldwin Bay on worms in the deeper holes.

Jack at **Arthur Street Fishing Station** says fluke were brought in from boats fishing Swift Creek Sunday, including an 11 lb. fluke that was seen by one of his rental skiffs caught Sunday on killie and sandeel in Swift Creek. The fish was weighed right on the boat right after it was caught. Blues are being wire lined, baited, and jigged in the Cholera area in 70' of water.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt Dennis of the charter boat **Marie III** tells us that Tuesday's trip for Jerry Murphy and group from the NYCFD had excellent fluking on both tides in Reynold's from the bridge to the Golf Course. Fish ran up to 3 lbs. on squid, sand eels and spearing with a 30 percent keeper ratio. Saturday's trip for Phil Linder and party had over 400 mixed midgets and keepers, many 2 to 4 lbs. They fished the same areas plus Garrett's Lead on spearing and squid with a 10 percent keeper ratio. Pool winner was Gene Linder and runner up was Barbara Coopen. Both fish were in the 4 lb. range. Sunday's trip to the Sandy Hook Channels for Ernie Mosley and group of Gruman enjoyed a good catch of 1 to 3 lb. blues plus 6 to 8 lb. weakfish sprinkled in. This was all on jigs.

Ed's Fishing Station reports that there is still a tremendous amount of fluke being caught but there are still a lot of small fish. The keeper ratio keeps improving and there is plenty of action all along Reynold's Channel. The bigger fish are in the area from the Loop Bridge to the Inlet. Killies are getting bigger fish as well. Sand eels seem to produce larger quantities but smaller fish. Flounder still being caught in the holes of Swift Creek and in front of the Coast Guard Station.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Capt Ronnie Lepper of the **Kim** tells us that the weakfishing has been excellent this week with 8 to 12 pounders being trolled on umbrellas, and are hitting diamond jigs and S&G tiger tails. Very good catches of mixed blues, 2 to 6 lbs. being umbrellaed. A few bass are hitting spoons. Stripers in the 25 to 35 lb. class are taking live bunker at the Atlantic Beach Bridge

Jim Gruebel, Charles Sciara, and Ralph Russo with a few nice blacks taken near Pt. Lookout. Photo courtesy of Ed's Fishing Station.

where they're also being taken by skindivers. Ronnie has been fishing the channels and the Jersey shore area.

Al at **Reynold's Reef Fishing Station** reports small bluefin tuna at the Ambrose Tower on Jap feathers. On Saturday, Fred Hill on his boat Four Queens worked the Tin Can and had 40 weakfish from 6 to 10 lbs. Stripers are being caught at the Atlantic Beach Bridge on live bunker. A 31 lb. striped bass swallowed the hook of 10 yr. old Brian Burchianti Thursday. The fish took a white bucktail. Best fluking has been off the beaches from 50th St. to Reis Park in 20 to 40' of water.

ISLAND PARK

Capt Clem of the **Commodore** notes that fluking has been excellent in Reynold's Channel with an average of 12 keepers a man plus 30 throwbacks a man. Jone's Inlet had a shot of good sized fish Sunday morning. Sunday was a super day except for the increase in boat traffic. Ten customers fished in Saturday's down pour and averaged 12 to 15 keepers a man. Scores were helped with the lack of private boats out. Fluke are hitting fish belly and spearing best.

Beckmann's Tackle in Lynbrook reports that on Saturday at 1 p.m. Ken Timper of Rosedale on his boat Hustler had 3 weakfish in the 10 lb. class on live bunker fishing Jone's Inlet. Lots of weaks being trolled from Jone's Inlet to Playland, fish up to 15 lbs. with a good number of big blues to 20 lbs., all on umbrellas in 20 to 40' of water. Blues and weaks being caught at the Tin Can Grounds on tiger tails while anchored and jigging. Surfcasters are into big blues too, hitting on bait, metal or plugs. Lots of fluke caught Friday and Saturday including a lot of good keepers in East Rockaway Inlet. Loads of fluke drifting Reynold's Channel around buoy 19 with about a 20 percent keeper ratio. Small snappers starting at Bay Park and blue claw crabs have started in the warm water at Island

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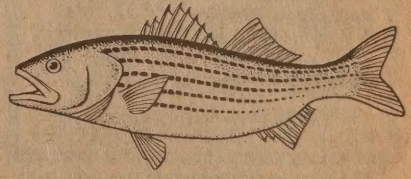

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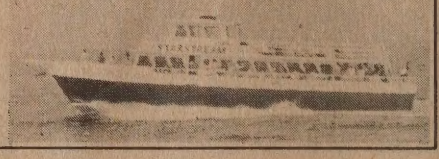

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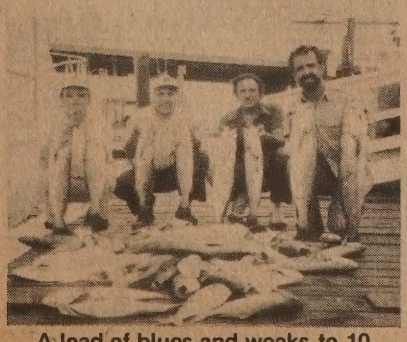

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LONG BEACH

Long Beach Sports Marina reports super fluking from Debb's Inlet to buoy 9 in Reynold's Channel. Jerry and Lee Resnick along with Mark Grossberg scored with 30 keeper fluke fishing buoy 9 Sunday with killies. Jim Gentilesco and son Jimmy had a tub of keepers up to 4 lbs. fishing buoy 3 with killie and belly. John Stein and Bernie Haag had bass of 31 and 20 lbs. respectively fishing live bunker Friday at the Atlantic Beach Bridge. Chris Haag had 10 and 15 lb. blues swimming live bunker at the Bridge Friday. Cocktail blues off the Atlantic Beach and Rockaway Jetties and for boat fishermen also on anything they can get in their mouths. Blues, weaks and fluke at the Tin Can. Twenty nine weaks to 9 lbs. for one customer working diamond jigs on the red side of the channels. This area is also loaded with big fluke.

EAST ROCKAWAY

Skippy's Tackle tells of lots of fluke at Hog Channel and Reynold's best results at Cement Block and Cedarhurst Yacht Club. The Magnolia Pier has been good for fluke and blues (which are scattered) being caught off the structure. Small blues being taken from the Bay Park area on bait and small artificials. Blackfishing is about over for now. Flounders continue to be caught in deep holes. Scattered bluefish being taken off the Atlantic Beaches by both casters and trollers. Blues being caught at Cholera on bait and on jigs. Blueclaw crabs being taken from the bridge near Pete's clambar on Long Beach Road.

JAMAICA BAY

Pat at **J-Bay Boat Rentals** tells of decent catches of fluke, 8 to 12 keepers a boat from 1½ to 2 lbs. at Siler Hole, spearing working best. Blueclaw crabs in traps and drop lines plus a lot of throw back crabs. Best is areas along the mud banks or the Paragon Pier area. Lots of small porgies in the bay on clam and worm. Some 5 to 10 lb. blues at Silver Hole on bunker chunk and on live bunker.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The charter boat **Thermocline** called to report sharking was slow for Saturday's tournament but they did bag a 130 lb. blue shark. The big problem was the jumbo bluefish getting in the way. Very good bluefishing locally at the Tin Can Grounds on jigs with an occasional weakfish mixed in. The skipper has several choice open dates available. See ad for details.

Capt Butch of the **Zephyr** reports very good fluking off Long Branch and also through Jamaica Bay whenever the weather gets too miserable to make the run to the Jersey coast. The

Tin Can and hot spots off Staten Island have also produced decent catches of fluke of mixed sizes. Butch says the fish are settled into the area pretty heavily and once the weather settles down he can pick and choose the best spots for even better catches. Fish this week have averaged 1 to 2 lbs. with pool fish going 4 to 7 lbs., sand eels working best.

Joe at **Stella Maris Bait & Tackle** reports loads of weakfish being taken at the Tin Can and Old Orchard Beach plus a good scattering of bluefish. Weaks are running 8 to 10 lbs. and are being taken on bait tails and diamond jigs. Blues are going 3 to 5 lbs. Fluke has been excellent at Reis Park, Norton's Point, Staten Island, NJ and behind Korvettes on sand eels, squid and fish belly. Blue claw crabs are starting to show on the flats off Plum Beach and at the Cross Bay Bridges.

North Shore Report

by Martin Garrell

NEW ROCHELLE

John Palmieri at **John's Gun & Tackle** spoke of poor fishing late last week when storms scattered the bluefish. Bass fishing on trolled worms and live bunker remained good around the New Rochelle and Mamaroneck areas. All sizes of fish were reported, including a few 40s and 50s.

CITY ISLAND

Greg Warner at **City Island Bait & Tackle** said that bottom fishermen were working sand porgies in the Orchard Beach and Sands Point areas. Bass fishing remained good around the Hart Island zone with worm trollers picking up a few fish in the teens. Bunker seem to have disappeared after bunker boats actively worked the area this past week.

Captain Pete Anderson of the **North Star** had very good porgy fishing on Sunday with 20-40 fish bags of ½ to ¾ pound fish. Pool winner was a 6 pound fluke taken on a sandworm. Porgies were in the Bayville area. Night bluefishing had been a dud until Saturday night off Eaton's, when some weaks and stripers joined the

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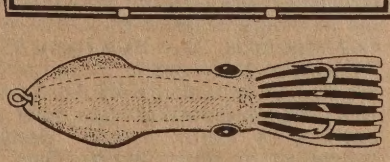

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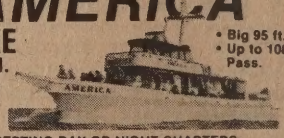

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party. Weaks above 12 lbs. plus schoolie bass to 8 lbs. were in the catch.

GLEN COVE

Dave Watt at the **Glen Cove Sport Shop** told us that the porgies were close to the beaches now, but that the bluefish action had become spotty. Still, George Schim managed to bring in one 14½ lb. fish. Blues were trolled or taken on bunker chunks. Bass were being taken on drifts in the Hempstead Harbor, and the first snappers are showing up in reports.

HUNTINGTON

LIF contributing writer, Don Avondolio, reported that he's been banging away at the Eaton's Neck striper population for the past two weeks. Best fish to date taken aboard Don's outboard skiff was a 31 lber. taken by his 10-year-old son James on Sunday. Don has been working the area around the obstruction buoy and has been managing a few fish each trip with most of the bass averaging 10 to 12 lbs. He has been using 1½ oz. Tri-Fin Whiptails exclusively in his fishing.

Ronnie Ferraro at **Ronnie's** said that the Obstruction Buoy area really opened up this week with blues in the 3-4 lb. range, weaks around 6, and a few large bass. Dave Beck had a 37½ lb. striper taken on a TriFin while Mark and Mike Porcelli hauled 4 bass to 33 lbs. on Saturday night after an evening of worm trolling. George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** however reported that the easterly blow had scattered the fish for awhile. A good showing of porgies was expected after the storm. Bass this week included John Ambrosio's 27 lb. 2 oz. fish, Joe LaCava's 15¼ pounder, and Joyce Urbanski's 18½ lb. fish.

Packy Collins of the **Ever Ready** called us and said that the fish returned to the Obstruction Buoy area on Sunday night. Blues were well above the "tailor" class with a few 8-9 pounders, weaks were 5-6, with no "gorillas". Red and white tubes, offered some 2½' above diamonds were producing weaks and bass on very, very slow retrieves until well after dark, with a switch to worms working after that.

North Fork Report

by Martin Garrell

This 52 lb. striper took a live bunker in Huntington Inlet. Angler John Pellegrino checked the fish at Four Winds Bait & Tackle.

NORTHPORT

Tom Bowman at **Bowman's** described the action last Monday as the "best blitz in years" between the Obstruction Buoy and Buoy 13. Diamonds with a tube tip or a jelly worm tip were the keys to success. Porgies are around but must take a back seat to the jigging action.

KINGS PARK

Helen Koliner from **OK Bait & Tackle** told us that weekend fishermen had a tough time and produced no blues at all. The early part of the week, before the blow, had, of course, been excellent.

PORT JEFFERSON

Tim Caraftis at the **Caraftis Fishing Station** saw some good catches of small porgies mixed with sea bass (also small) before the rains this weekend. Weakfishing had dropped off. Although there were lots of shorts, the pick of fluke off Mount Misery Shoal, the Inlet, and Flack's pond on sandeels and squid or large spearing, was quite good. Jeanette Fisher, whose husband John skippers the **Aqua Gem** remarked that, although the boat spent Sunday pulling porgies, the whole weekend had been a "disaster."

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph Davenport at **Ralph's** told us that there were lots of fluke to 4 lbs. inside Buoy 11 on the shoal and off Cedar Beach. Good drifts on squid and sandeel combinations were essential. Ratio of keepers to throwbacks was running about 2:3. Porgies were small, and there were only a few weaks out by Buoy 9.

AQUEBOGUE

Nick Cyprus at **Warren's Tackle Center** said that small blues were now moving around the oil rigs on the Sound at Northville and that blacks, porgies, and sea bass also made up catches in the Pipeline area. Porgy sizes in the Sound seem to be picking up. Fluke off Mattituck Inlet were running 80% throwbacks, and a drail with squid or sand eels reeled right along the bottom produces. There doesn't seem to be anything significant going on right now in "Secret City," i.e. Plum Gut.

NEW SUFFOLK

Sal Loria at **Captain Marty's** spoke of some nice porgies over the weekend, and so did Newt Robbin's at **Captain Jim's.** Scup were anywhere from 3/4 lbs. on up, but there were still some 2 lbers. in the bags. Boat catches of weaks are incidental, but most boats tally 1 to 3 fish in the 2-3 lb. class. Porgy catches run as high as 20 gallons per boat, with Roses Grove, buoys 22, 23, 25, 26 and 29 all mentioned in reports. Larger porgies are often taken on clams and there were a few blowfish mixed in the Saturday catches.

SOUTHOLD

Ace Cottral at the **Port of Egypt Station** said that the porgies in the Noyac-Jessups area (buoys 16-17) and on the Middle Grounds were medium to small, but that fish around South Ferry and Cedar Point were somewhat bigger. South of Plum Island and off Gardiner's, the scup were also showing in numbers and sizes. Although there were occasional weakfish taken during the week from the channel in front of the station, the blitz of recent weeks was over. Off the Orient Station there were mostly 2-3 lb. blackfish around the lighthouse with 5-6 lb. tautog the tops. One fisherman sat on the Orient shoal for the whole day on Saturday and produced 17 keeper fluke among a total of 50. There were no fish over 3 lbs., except for the ones that got away.

Coe Harris at the Southold Fishing Station reported that most of his sales are still to fishermen pushing the weaks in the Bay on squid and sand worms.

MATTITUCK

The **Mattituck Inlet Fishing Station** confirmed the local pickup in porgy

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Scott Baird with a 12½ lb. blue and a 9 lb. weak he took off Lloyd's Neck on diamond jigs. Photo courtesy of Bowman's Sporting Goods.

sizes on the Sound on both sides of Mattituck Inlet. Fluke fishing is still going strong with a lot of keepers in current catches. Weaks in the best catch Saturday numbered 8, and there were only a few small blues in the inlet area.

GREENPORT

Anna Rainis said that the **Blue Albatross** was sailing during the week as an open fluking boat and doing rather well. Some 20-25 fluke were coming over the rails daily and Martha Freeman pulled a 7 pounder on Wednesday off Horton's. Gene Otto was doing the skippering now.

Art White at the **AP White Bait & Tackle Shop** described pretty good porgy action off Gardiner's and on the Sound for the open boats. The **Peconic Star** took the porgy trade on Sunday while the **Prime Time** concentrated on half-day fluking. White feels that the fluking off Truman's is better than it is off the Ruins, while Horton's may be even better. Most keepers are typical summer flatties of 2-3 lbs., but the deep channels off Shelter Island still have the heavyweights for those who want quality, not "meat." Blackfishing remains surprisingly good for this time of year, and yes, there are porgies off the Sound Beaches.

South Fork Report

by Stu Miller

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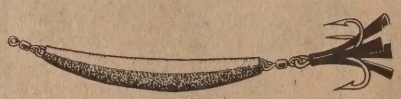

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Shinnecock Bay there have been 2 to 3 lb. blues, with the same in the Inlet, hitting fluke rigs. Flounders, though on the small side, are still being caught at buoy 29 and east of the Coast Guard Station. Fluke with a lot of shorts but a fair number of keepers are hitting on incoming tide best on squid, sandeels and spearing, all in Shinnecock Bay. The Canal is a mixed bag of the aforementioned. Over in Peconic, it's mostly porgies from small to mediums with larger porgies at Jessups, Sag Harbor and Cedar Point. School blues in the 5 lb. range in South Race off Jessups and Sebonac. Scattered small to medium weakfish on diamond jigs or squid strips or sand worms. Fluking has been so-so at Gardiner's around the Ruins.

The **Capt Clark II** reports good porgy fishing in Peconic Bay this past week, fish going ¾ to 1½ lbs. Sand worms are the preferred tempters. On Saturday Delores and Wesley Phillips of Huntington had 115 porgies between them. Delores took the pool with an 8 lb. weak. The boat will be making ocean trips for sea bass and ling this coming weekend with weather permitting.

SAG HARBOR

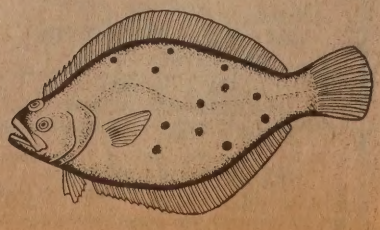
Capt Artie Lach of the **Wilhelric II** dutifully reports that Tuesday's fluking was a disaster due to the wind against tide situation resulting in no drift whatsoever. Wednesday's fluke outing to Truman Beach saw good results with Jack Gleason of East Islip taking the pool with a 5 lb. fluke and 6 other fluke from 3 to 5 lbs. This was on sandeels and squid. Starting July 13th the boat will be fluking Mondays Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Porgy fishing the balance of the week and weekend was slow due to the east winds. Artie says the porgies are appearing in all their usual summer haunts and it looks like a good porgy season coming.

Charter boat **Sundance** called to say that his customers have been getting bass blues and weakfish

Bob says he has quite a few choice open dates for shark and tuna. See ad for details.

NOYAC

Noyac Marina reports mixed catches of porgies and weakfish. Weaks are being taken on squid strips on hi/lo rigs. Porgies are hitting worms and clam best west of the ferry slip on the Shelter Island side, both tides.



Surf Report

by Fred Golofaro

Several days of east wind curtailed surf fishing around most of the island this past week. Despite the drubbing suffered at the hands of the weatherman, and the approach of the summer doldrums, there was at least some action enjoyed by members of the surf clan.

Raul DelaCruz, who normally goes about his business in a more clandestine fashion, figured that with his days in the states numbered due to an upcoming job assignment in Saudi Arabia, there was no need to keep his most recent success a secret. Fishing Robert Moses Park on Sunday night, Raul used mackerel finished RedFins to put away 13 bass from 3-7 lbs., 2 weaks and 1 bluefish. Freddy, of Augie's Bait and Tackle in Babylon confirmed the catch Monday morning.

Art Mundola took this 37 lb. striper from the surf near Eaton's Neck on an Alou Eel. It was checked in at Four Winds Bait and Tackle.

To the west, Bernie Haag of the Long Beach Sports Marina reported some action at the Atlantic Beach jetties on cut bunker. All of the fishing has been from dawn to 7AM according to Bernie with some large bass as well as a few large weaks being taken from the rock piles. Al Santini of Kew Gardens checked in fish of 17 and 29 lbs. at the marina last Wednesday. Small blues show periodically along the open beaches.

Lon Wanser speaking from his Seaford tackle shop told of one regular customer who has been taking a couple of weaks each evening on sand worms along Gilgo. On Thursday, he had three fish all in the 8-9 lb. class.

At the eastern tip of the Island, Johnny Kronuch of Johnny's Bait and Tackle said that the week's east wind knocked out the weakfish action along Gin Beach and at Shagwong until Saturday when fish were again in fair supply. A couple of casters who stuck it out through the whole tide Saturday night managed 10 to 15 weaks apiece. Friday only a couple of fish were picked along the stretch of beach. On Sunday night most of the action was down along Gin Beach rather than at Shagwong, with one angler reporting 4 fish at Gin Beach and another caster reporting doing nothing at the Point. Up front has been quiet said John with the exception of an 18 lb. striper taken under the Light Saturday.

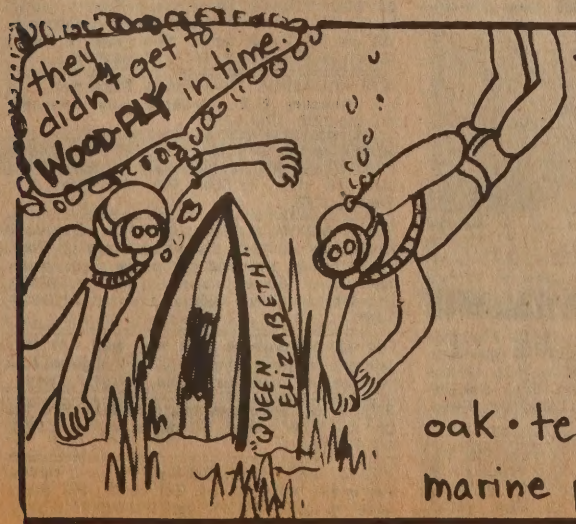
Up on the North Shore, Ronnie Ferraro of Ronnie's Bait and Tackle in Huntington reported a mixture of mostly blues, a few bass and an occasional weak at Caumsett before the weekend. Of the bass, he knew one caster who took 12 fish, but kept only 3. A few nicer size bass, 10 to 14 lb. range along the Ashroken shore where access is a problem. Eel worms before dark and Rebels afterwards has been the ticket at both spots.

From the Rocky Point Fishing Stop, John Russell reported a few small blues and a few weaks at Hagerman's Landing early morning and evenings

Bob, Walter, Ray, and Fred of the Patchogue Fishing Club with 5 stripers up to 30 lbs. trolled on "Big Dannys" aboard the "Windy."

on small tins and Tri-Fin Spoon jigs. Thursday evening was an exception when a school of small choppers hit the beach and everybody wound up with a nice mess of fish.

On the North Fork, Nick Cyprus of Warren's Tackle Center reported things have been relatively quiet with the exception of one night last week when a mixed school of blues and bass hit the local beaches. Best of the fish weighed in from the one-night stand were bass of 26 lbs. and a blue of 14 lbs.



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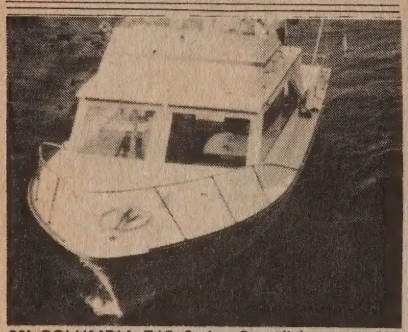

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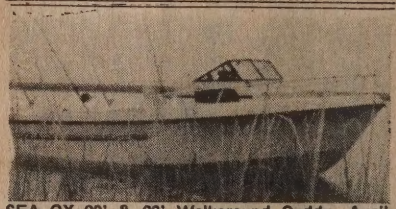

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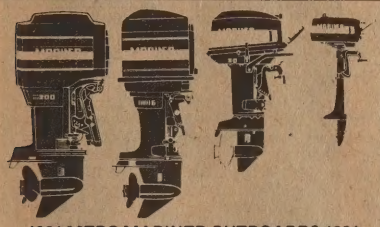

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2-$279- 4-$434; 4.5-$500; 7.5-$637; 9.9-$807; 15-$907; 25- $1080; 35-$1208; 55-$1650; 50-$1775; 60-$2000; 70-$2138; 85-$2450; 115-$2700; 140-$3100; 150-$3450; 175-$3650; 200-$3750; 235-$3875. ELECTRA MARINE, 610 Merrick Rd., Lynbrook, Ny 11563. Scott & McCulloch parts. FOB/H WI. 516-599-3003. We ship anywhere.

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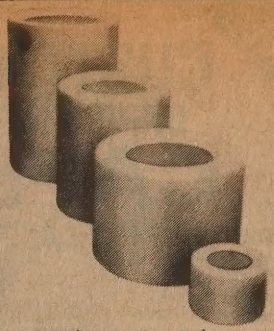

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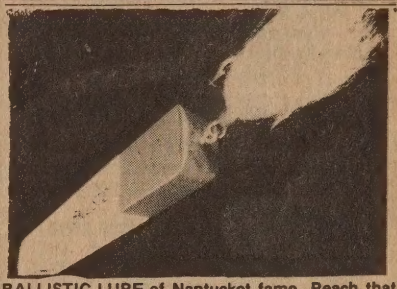

BALLISTIC LURE of Nantucket fame. Reach that school of fish while others cast short. We guarantee it. $3.95 plus $1 mailing. Wilson Lure Camping & Fishing Products, Dept. L, P.O. Box 3771, Philadelphia, PA 19125.

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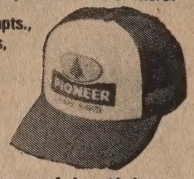

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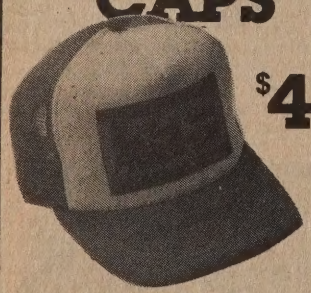

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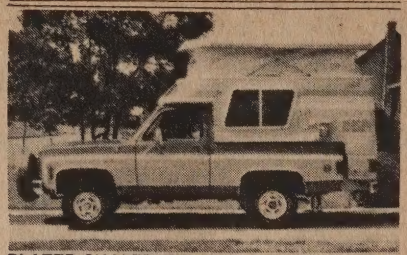

BLAZER CHALET 1977 Factory equipped galley, refrig., dinette/bunks. Gas heat, A/C, stereo & lots more. 3700. Orig. miles. Perfect beach camper. $7500. 475-0922.

SUMMER DOCKAGE—Now taking reservations: $16 per ft. 23' limit. Five minutes from Shinnecock Inlet. Also have a small selection of select brokerage boats for sale. SUNSHINE MARINE, 23 Rampasture Rd., Hampton Bays, N.Y. 11946. 516-728-1339.

LOBSTER TRAPS & LOBSTER FISHING EQUIPMENT. Lath, frames, funnels, warp buoys, Osco haulers. Power winch, elec. hauler; spec. $275. 516-427-4063.

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Rent your own fishing boat: SeaRay 26'; Si-Tex Recorder, all gear, Northport Harbor. $200 Full day. Call Ken, 516-261-1732.

EMBLEMS—Direct from manufacturer. Swiss embroidered; custom made to your design. Send sample or sketch and quantity needed for free quotation. DAVID HAEMMERLE & Sons, Inc., Box 711, W. New York, NJ 07093.

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FOR SALE: Bait & Tackle business. Est. 35 yrs, Wanaque, N.J. Prime location; modern building plus beautiful 5-room apt. Asking $200,000. Owner will hold large mortgage at 10%. Go for it! CONNELLY ASSOCIATES REALTORS, 201-728-8141.

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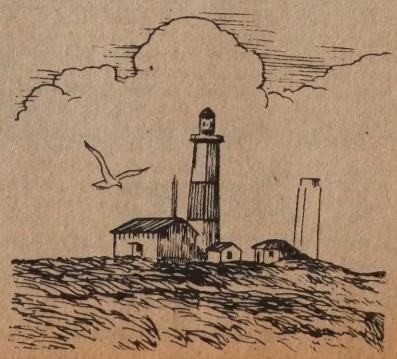
BAIT & TACKLE SHOP complete w/substantial inventory. All fixtures, displays, freezers, etc. Well-established business in center of Fort Lee; access to major highways. Fresh & salt water baits. Long record as proven money making business. Must sell for health reasons. Available immediately. Call 9-4, 201-461-4973 for info.



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High Tide Tables

How to use tide tables:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet...–0 50" is listed under "ON SANDY HOOK." –0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6½ hours to this figure.

DAY	SANDY HOOK AM	SANDY HOOK PM	Breakwater Harbor AM	Breakwater Harbor PM	NEW YORK AM	NEW YORK PM	NEW LONDON AM	NEW LONDON PM	WILLETS POINT AM	WILLETS POINT PM	BRIDGE-PORT AM	BRIDGE-PORT PM	NEWPORT AM	NEWPORT PM	DATE
THUR.	2:10	2:50	3:20	4:00	3:00	3:40	4:10	4:50	6:45	7:15	5:55	6:25	2:15	2:50	7/9
FRI.	3:00	3:45	4:15	4:50	3:50	4:30	5:10	5:45	7:45	8:10	6:50	7:15	3:10	3:45	7/10
SAT.	3:55	4:35	5:05	5:40	4:45	5:25	6:05	6:30	8:40	8:55	7:45	8:10	4:05	4:35	7/11
SUN.	4:55	5:30	6:00	6:25	5:40	6:15	6:55	7:10	9:30	9:45	8:35	8:55	4:55	5:25	7/12
MON.	5:50	6:20	6:45	7:10	6:35	7:00	7:40	7:50	10:15	10:25	9:25	9:40	5:45	6:10	7/13
TUE.	6:40	7:00	7:30	7:50	7:25	7:45	8:20	8:30	11:00	11:00	10:10	10:25	6:30	6:55	7/14
WED.	7:25	7:40	8:15	8:30	8:10	8:25	9:05	9:10	11:35	11:15	10:55	11:05	7:15	7:35	7/15
THUR.	8:05	8:20	8:55	9:10	8:50	9:00	9:45	9:45	11:55	11:40	11:35	11:45	8:00	8:20	7/16

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	–0 01
Red Bank, Navesink, R.I.	+0 48
Long Branch	–0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	–0 18
Shark River Basin	+0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	–0 12
Seaside Park	–0 33
Mantoloking zbridge	+5 34
TOMS RIVER	+4 37
Waretown	+2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	–0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+2 33
Beach Haven	+1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	–0 01
Seven Islands	+0 12
Graveling Point	+1 05
Mullica River	+1 55
Grassy Bay	+1 08
ABSECON INLET	+0 14
Atlantic City Pier	–0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+0 46
CORSON INLET	+0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+0 45
Cape May Harbor	–0 02
Rehoboth Beach	–0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	–0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+1 25
East Quogue	+2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+1 18
Indian Reservation	+3 05
MORICHES INLET	–0 56
Smith's Point	+3 28
Harts Cove	+1 30
Pontunck Point	+3 35
Mastic Beach	+3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	–0 38
Democrat Point	–0 38
Coast Guard Station	–0 19
Fire Island Light	+0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+3 20
Bay Shore	+2 23
Babylon	+2 12
Amityville	+2 21
JONES INLET	–0 19
Zachs Bay	+1 25
Seaford Harbor	+2 05
Freeport Creek	+0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	–0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+0 38
JFK Airport	+0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+0 08
Bayville Bridge	+0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+0 03
Northport Bay	+0 03
Norwalk Islands	+0 10
Smithtown Bay	–0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+0 03
New Haven Harbor	+0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	–0 08
Herod Point	–0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+0 19
Horton Point	–0 20
Truman Beach	–0 42
Falkner Island	–0 13
Sachem Head	–0 10
Branford Harbor	–0 07
New Haven Harbor	–0 08
Milford Harbor	–0 07
Stratford	+0 27
Shelton	+1 36
Black Rock Harbor	–0 03
Saugatuck River	–0 01
South Norwalk	+0 10
Greens Ledge	–0 01
Stamford	+0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+0 06
Greenwich	+0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+0 12
Greenport	+1 04
Southold	+1 43
New Suffolk	+2 26
South Jamesport	+2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+2 33
Noyack Bay	+2 05
Sag Harbor	+0 59
Gardiners Bay	+0 21
Promised Land	–0 14
Montauk Inlet	–0 25
Montauk Point	–1 13
Niantic	+1 20
Stonington	–0 33
Noank, Mystic River	–0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	–0 01
Norwich	+0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+1 10
Lyme	+1 24
Essex	+1 38
East Haddam	+2 41
Higganum Creek	+2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	–0 10
Execution Light	–0 06
Manhasset Bay	–0 01
Hempstead Harbor	–0 11
City Island	–0 03
Rye Beach	–0 28
Port Chester	–0 09
Mamaroneck	–0 08
New Rocheele	–0 24
Davids Island	–0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	–0 10
Miami Beach	+1 17
East Point	+0 53
Egg Island Point	+0 33
Cape Henlopen	–0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+0 58
Ossining	+1 53
Peekskill	+2 24
West Point	+3 16
Newburg	+3 42

On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	–0 10
Tiverton	+0 21
Beavertail Point	–0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+0 10
Bristol	+0 10
Warren	+0 21
Nayett Point	+0 12
Pawtucket	+0 21
East Greenwich	+0 16
Wickford	+0 12
Narragansett Pier	–0 08
Point Judith Harbor	–0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+0 05
Old Harbor	–0 14
Watch Hill Point	+0 44

Sunrise/Sunset

7/10	5:33	8:37
7/11	5:34	8:37
7/12	5:35	8:36
7/13	5:36	8:35
7/14	5:36	8:35
7/15	5:37	8:34
7/16	5:38	8:34

Moonrise/Moonset

7/10	2:27PM	1:20AM
7/11	3:34PM	1:48AM
7/12	4:32PM	2:18AM
7/13	5:29PM	2:51AM
7/14	6:25PM	3:29AM
7/15	7:18PM	4:13AM
7/16	8:08PM	5:02AM

Moon Phases

NEW	1st Qtr	FULL	2nd Qtr.
7/1	7/9	7/17	7/24

The Original Knight
SOLUNAR TABLES
When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for this week as printed below have been taken from the original ***KNIGHT SOLUNAR TABLES.*** Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for 1½ to 2 hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type face.

	AM Minor	AM Major	PM Minor	PM Major
Thurs.	—	6:10	12:20	6:30
Fri.	12:45	6:45	12:55	7:05
Sat.	1:20	7:25	1:35	7:45
Sun.	2:00	8:05	2:15	8:25
Mon.	2:40	8:45	2:35	9:10
Tues.	3:25	9:30	3:40	9:50
Wed.	4:05	10:15	4:25	10:40
Thurs.	4:55	11:05	5:15	11:30

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Berkley's extra strong Trilene actually tests up to 25% stronger* than other leading monofilaments. Trilene's exceptional strength is due to a special patented nylon formulation which is far stronger and easier to handle than ordinary monos.

Trilene is thin.

Trilene's smaller diameter means less water drag, reduced line belly and increased yardage on the reel. You'll fish a tighter line, have more control over a hooked fish and an extra margin of safety when a big fish makes a long run.

Trilene resists abrasion.

Trilene boasts a tough outer "skin" of abrasion resistant protection. That's a real advantage offshore, where thrashing tails and razor sharp teeth pose a constant threat to the strength of your fishing line.

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